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|                   | BEGINS | ENDS |
|-------------------|--------|------|
| SHABBAT Jerusalem | 6:48   | 8:03 |
| Tel Aviv          | 7:06   | 8:05 |
| Haifa             | 7:00   | 8:06 |

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**By ASHER WALLFISH**  
Post Knesset Correspondent

Ministers will remain on tenterhooks until Sunday, when the cabinet, in one of its most important votes ever, will probably decide the future of the Lavi. As of this morning, the outcome is still in doubt.

Some ministers will only make up their minds to kill or continue the controversial project after the debate, and according to the motions put to vote.

Six of the ministers who put their names down to speak on the controversial jet fighter at previous meetings but have not yet spoken, are expected to do so on Sunday. A long-drawn session is anticipated.

This week, Finance Minister Moshe Nissim drafted a joint proposal with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin to cease the development and production of the jet immediately. Nissim has since been lobbying fellow ministers he counts among the waverers. They include those who are loath to stop the Lavi on principle, but will only vote for its continuation under conditions that seem difficult, if not impossible, to secure.

Ministers who are still unsure how to vote on Sunday, or who support the project with reservations, are digesting the implications of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's

## Day of decision for the Lavi

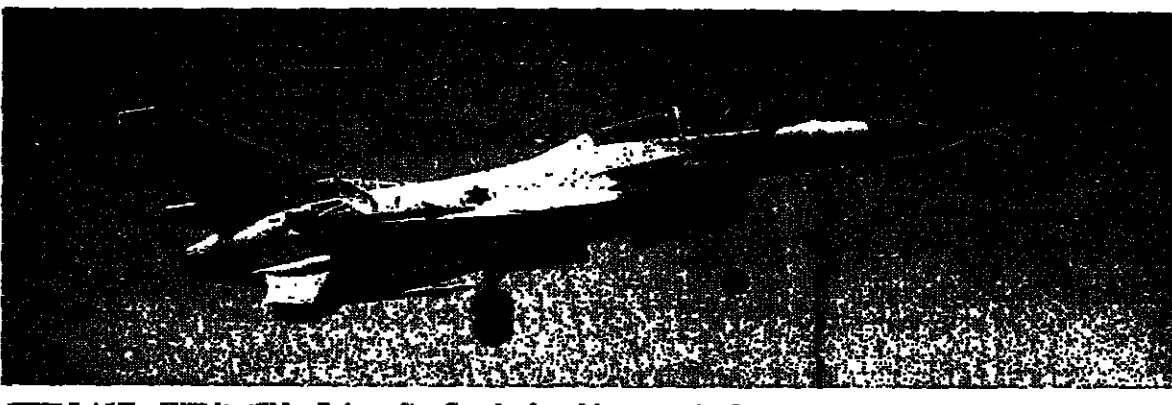
call for its termination.

Alignment Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino contends that American pressure will mean more cabinet votes in favour, but her analysis is not convincing. Her Alignment colleague, Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tsur, told *The Jerusalem Post* that the Shultz message was a factor that should not be ignored.

"The fact that they, the Americans, pay the piper, doesn't mean, they automatically call the tune. But the fact is that they have every right to conduct a dialogue with Israel," he said. "The dialogue will not be between a patron and a client, of course. But we have to observe the proprieties, and we cannot just tell the U.S. to jump in a lake."

In the Likud bloc, only three ministers apparently opposed the Lavi yesterday. They all belong to the Liberal wing. Apart from Nissim, the other two are Justice and Tourism Minister Avraham Shari, and Minister-without-Portfolio Yitzhak Moda'i.

Prime Minister Shamir has said publicly that he favours the Lavi and welcomes Israel Aircraft Industries'



THE LAVI—Will it still be flying after Sunday's cabinet meeting?

willingness to cut costs.

But there may be a limit to the extent that Shamir can twist the arm of such a popular finance minister as Nissim, without also helping Nissim find as yet undiscovered funds outside the budget to continue the Lavi project as well as finance other sophisticated weapons development projects that the IDF says it needs.

Having established his credentials with his Herut colleagues and with the IAI lobby, managers and workers alike, Shamir can always reverse

his stand, pleading *force majeure*. But if Shamir sees a majority shaping up to halt the Lavi, he will certainly vote to continue it, if his own vote does not tip the balance. Whatever the case, the prime minister will watch his back against party rivals like Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon and Housing Minister David Levy.

When Education Minister Yitzhak Navon, of the Alignment, said yesterday that electoral considerations should be kept separate from

the decision on the Lavi, he was referring to the fact that the IAI managers and workers have become one of this country's powerful lobbies. They represent, along with the employees of sub-contractors and related enterprises, about three Knesset seats, not counting the votes of their spouses. The Lavi backlash could be formidable at the next elections, and the Sunday cabinet vote will be held under the shadow of that threatened backlash.

Rabin is leaving Alignment leader

and Foreign Minister Peres to carry the can for him in that respect, just as Shamir will probably let Nissim carry the can for the Likud.

Peres's statements seem to indicate that he is both for and against the Lavi. He would vote for continuation if the missing \$200 million could be found somehow, but he has offered no solutions.

Life is a lot simpler for the majority of the Likud ministers, including the entire Herut wing. They support the Lavi vigorously and patriotically, thus putting the Alignment into a no-win situation in terms of public opinion. If the cabinet votes to go ahead with the project, it will be ascribed to the tenacity of the Likud, the abandonment of the project will be ascribed to the defeatism of the Alignment. There could be no more appropriate issue in a pre-election year.

Should the cabinet endorse the Lavi, but then find the decision unworkable because IAI employees do not tighten their belts enough, Shamir and his Herut colleagues will be in the clear. The trade unions, hence the Alignment, will be blamed for holding the IAI employees back.

Should the cabinet on Sunday be left to choose between two motions on which to vote (continuation versus abandonment), the victory may well go to continuation. But if Peres tables a third motion, namely continuation qualified by the condition that extra-budgetary funds be found to meet the Lavi's needs, and also to finance at least part of the sophisticated weapons development projects the IDF is demanding, the voting pattern could be much more complicated.

The third motion could garner 15 votes for abandoning the project (because there is no money), as against nine to continue it, at a rough estimate.

As things stood yesterday, there appeared to be a hard core of 10 ministers seeking to halt the project: Rabin, Nissim, Shari, Moda'i, Navon, Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin, Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev, Energy Minister Moshe Shabai, Minister-without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman and Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer.

There appeared to be a hard core of nine advocating continuation: Shamir, Sharon, Levy, Minister-without-Portfolio Moshe Arens and Yosef Shapira, Transport Minister Haim Corfu, Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katav, Science and Development Minister Gideon Patt and

(Continued on Back Page)

### Agency companies slammed

**By CHARLES HOFFMAN**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Most of the companies in which the Jewish Agency has an interest do not serve any agency purposes, nor do they provide "any material benefit to the agency." In addition, the bodies set up in 1978 to supervise these companies and provide information about their financial condition have failed to do their job.

These are the major findings of the Lankin Committee, an independent panel of Israeli businessmen and experts set up last December by the agency's board of governors to probe agency companies. The committee's report, a copy of which was obtained by *The Jerusalem Post*, was recently submitted to the board of governors.

The committee, chaired by Eliahu Lankin, a former ambassador to South Africa, recommended that all but a "very small number" of the 46 companies in which the agency has an interest, and which operate in a wide range of areas, should be either sold or dismantled. The report noted that very little was done over the past 15 years to implement decisions of the board to sell off most of the agency's holdings in these companies.

Since 1981 the Diaspora fund-raising leaders on the board have been pressing chairman Arye Dulzin, who was responsible for the Agency Companies Authority, to sell off more agency assets to help retire its massive debt, which stood then at \$650 million.

Dulzin's lack of enthusiasm to sell agency assets, and his failure to provide satisfactory information about the companies' value and financial condition to the board, were among the factors that led to a revolt among the fund-raisers at the board meeting last February. The board stripped Dulzin of his control of the

(Continued on Page 4)

## Two Israelis charged in Britain's biggest robbery

**By DAVID BOROVITZ**  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — Two Israelis were yesterday charged with involvement in Britain's biggest ever robbery, in which £30 million worth of cash and jewelry was stolen from a Knightsbridge safe-deposit box centre.

The two — antique dealer Israel Pinkas, 45, and investor Eliahu Efrati, 42 — were indicted yesterday at London's Horseferry Magistrates' Court, and were remanded in custody until tomorrow.

Pinkas, who runs a shop in north-west London, was charged with taking part in the actual robbery of the centre in London's Brompton Road on July 12.

Efrati was charged with dishonestly handling goods stolen in the robbery, and with receiving a quantity of diamonds.

Pinkas is married and lives in Golders Green. Efrati is thought to have been visiting England at the time of the robbery, and was staying with Pinkas.

The two Israelis appeared in court yesterday with two other men charged with taking part in the theft: David Poole, a 47-year-old Londoner, and Valerio Viceci, a 32-year-old Italian who police believe masterminded the whole operation.

Neither Pinkas, who was wearing blue cotton trousers, a white t-shirt and a bulky gold chain, nor Efrati, more conservatively dressed in brown trousers and a sweater, spoke during the brief hearing.

The four men are being kept in cells at Paddington Green Police

Station until their next court appearance.

Police were yesterday still interviewing five other people arrested in connection with the robbery, including a woman. They have not yet been charged. Three of them are known to be Italians; there are reportedly

### Eliahu Efrati — who is he?

**By JONATHAN KARP**  
For The Jerusalem Post

Eliahu Efrati is a wealthy Tel Aviv businessman who is reported to have skirted the edge of the criminal world in Israel, though he has never been charged with any offence.

Efrati has diverse business interests, including E. Efrati and Sons, the Jaffa ice and refrigeration company he inherited from his father. He also runs an investment company, and has been an importer of television sets as well as meat.

Efrati maintained a low profile in the local sports world, working as an adviser to the secretary of Hapoel's Tel Aviv branch and serving (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

no other Israelis among them.

Scotland Yard was not prepared to comment yesterday on speculation that there was Mafia involvement in the raid, a theory given credence by the arrests of the four Italians. A police source has admitted, however, that such a link is "possible."

In last month's raid, two gunmen dressed as city gents cleaned out 126 safe-deposit boxes in the Knightsbridge Centre, having bluffed their way past security guards.

Police have recovered several million pounds of cash and jewels taken in the robbery from another London vault, among other places. The thieves had stashed their haul in other safe-deposit boxes, houses, cars and hotel rooms all over the city.

It has become clear that the precise value of the goods stolen will never be known, since only 80 of the 126 safe-deposit-box holders robbed have come forward to detail their losses. Police believe that some of the other box holders are keeping quiet because their boxes contained items from other robberies.

Sixty policemen have been working on the case for the past month, and an underworld tip-off gave them their first major lead. This tip suggested that the robbery was planned in Italy.

Several suspects were placed under observation, and when a policeman went to arrest one of them on Wednesday night at a London hotel, he fled in a Ferrari.

A high-speed car chase followed. Eventually, the Ferrari was rammed by a police car and the driver was arrested after a struggle. Two other Italians were arrested after a chase through Mayfair, and the rest of the suspects — including the two Israelis — were apprehended in late-night raids.

## Opponents prepare final onslaught

**By AVI TEMKIN**  
Post Economic Reporter

The Treasury, the U.S. Embassy and the academic economics establishment were engaged yesterday in their final onslaught against the Lavi. Some ministers who hitherto supported the project are apparently now wavering, a fact that has increased the Finance Ministry's hopes. Due to American pressure, what appeared only a few days ago to be a lost battle, now seems to be a cliffhanger.

Tension was building towards Sunday, when the 24 cabinet members are due to take what could be one of their hardest decisions ever. Treasury officials said yesterday the ministry could count on 11 ministers voting against the Lavi. The key to the outcome are Foreign Minister Peres, Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi, Absorption Minister

Ya'acov Tsur and Minister-without-Portfolio Yitzhak Peretz.

Peres and Tsur were considered Lavi supporters until Wednesday, but are now reassessing their position in light of America's clear call to halt the project. In an effort to tip the balance against the Lavi, Nissim

met with Tsur and persuaded him to reconsider his position.

Even Science Minister Gideon Patt, until now a staunch supporter of the jet fighter, said yesterday he would spend the next two days going over cost estimates. Patt met with American Embassy officials who conveyed to him the message sent on Tuesday by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Prime Minister

Shamir and Ministers Peres, Nissim, Rabin and Ya'acobi.

Patt said it had been a "friendly meeting" and that he had heard no threats of American retaliation in the event of the cabinet deciding to go ahead with the fighter. He said opponents of the Lavi had raised the issue of American threats as an argument against the project.

Patt was referring to Nissim and Rabin's contention that the U.S. would not renew the finance of offset purchases, worth \$150 million, if the Lavi were continued and would not consider other Israeli requests. Under offset arrangements the U.S. agrees to purchase Israeli products to counter Israeli imports of American goods.

In a related development, 15 leading economists from the country's universities sent a letter to Shamir.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

See pages 5, 18

### Violent demo in E. Jerusalem

**By ANDY COURT**  
and JOEL GREENBERG

Six American and European volunteers in a community-work programme at Bir Zeit University were arrested in a violent incident outside the American Consulate in East Jerusalem yesterday.

Two of the arrested required medical attention, and several other demonstrators were reportedly injured as well. Several Border Police men were also hurt, according to the capital's assistant police chief, Shlomo Turgeman.

The volunteers say that police acted brutally, using tear-gas and clubs to break up what was a noisy

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

### Beit Jallah policeman slain

**By JOEL GREENBERG**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A gunman burst into the police station in the West Bank town of Beit Jallah yesterday and shot dead an Arab policeman, military sources reported.

The assailant wore a keffiyeh and arrived at the station in a getaway car with two accomplices. He climbed to the second floor of the building and fired four shots with a pistol at close range at the chest of Nimr al-Sheikh, 41, who was sitting in a hallway eating his lunch. Al-Sheikh suc-

ceeded in drawing his pistol before he was hit.

Palestinian sources said al-Sheikh, from the village of Battir south of Jerusalem, had a reputation for being a tough traffic cop, who monitored the police highway radar. The shooting appears to be a revenge attack, but police have not ruled out political motives.

Police set up roadblocks near the police station and launched a search for the attacker. A special police team has been appointed to investigate the killing.

## Defence expert concludes her testimony

**By ERNIE MEYER**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prosecutor Michael Shaked yesterday asked defence witness Edna Robertson of Panama City, Florida, whether she had come here on a direct flight. Perhaps she had made a stop-over in Europe?

No, replied the documents expert, she had changed planes in Memphis, Chicago and Montreal, but not in Europe. On her way back from Jerusalem last May, she had stopped briefly in Zurich.

It seemed like a strange way to start Robertson's fourth day of cross-examination. But then Shaked dropped the subject of air travel and asked about the signature of SS supply corporal Ernst Teufel on the Trawniki ID card. Half an hour later, however, air travel was mentioned again, and one began to appreciate how the mind of a good prosecutor worked.

Shaked had been asking about the need for a "standard" signature of undisputed authenticity against which to measure other signatures allegedly by the same person. He told Robertson how experts for the prosecution had gone to Germany to check Teufel's signature in archives there.

Court president Dov Levin said to Robertson: "On your way here, you could have stopped at the same archives."

Robertson replied: "I would have liked to see the originals, but I had good photos of them supplied by the Israel police laboratory. I was pressed for time."

The witness then explained that she bases her work on photographic enlargements of original signatures.



In the case of Trawniki camp commander Karl Streibel and the accused, John Demjanjuk, however, she said she worked with original signatures.

Levin wanted to know why, in that case, she had not included these original signatures in the album she had prepared to buttress her opinion that the Trawniki ID card was not authentic.

"It was not practical, but I brought the photos with me," Robertson replied.

At this point Judge Zvi Tal asked the witness how she knew that the

Demjanjuk signatures she had worked with were in fact authentic?

Robertson: "Defence attorney John Gill gave them to me at the Cleveland trial in 1984. They were written with a ballpoint pen."

Shaked: "And you believed Gill when he said they were Demjanjuk's?"

Robertson: "Yes. There was no reason not to. I have to trust someone."



Shaked then established that Robertson accepted the authenticity of the Streibel signature, which she had taken from the album prepared for the prosecution by Rav-Pakad Bezalet of the Israel police. "They were photos taken from originals in European archives," she said.

But then Robertson added a new twist to her testimony.

She explained that she compared even supposedly authentic samples of signatures with each other for further corroboration of their authenticity. With the Streibel signatures she had found inconsistencies,

she said, adding: "I don't know whether Streibel wrote all of them. Perhaps an assistant signed some documents with his name."

Shaked wanted to know why the witness had not told the court earlier about these further doubts.

Said Robertson: "Even when 'standard' samples are supplied, there can still be differences."

Tal said he was trying to understand the work methods the witness employed. "Now you tell us that you also doubt and check accepted 'standard' signatures? How can you ever arrive at a result?"

Robertson merely repeated that she compared "standards" with others in the same category.

Shaked next asked the witness whether she had any preconception about the authenticity of the Trawniki ID card. "I can't permit myself to have any preconceived opinions," replied Robertson.

Said Shaked: "I think the Streibel signature is a good example of your prejudice. You're inventing a new idea — namely, that even 'standards' are not true."

Commented Levin: "I believe in your honest intention, but the moment you doubt the authenticity of

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## The weather at major Swissair destinations

|                | 13.8.87 | MIN. | MAX. |        |
|----------------|---------|------|------|--------|
| AMSTERDAM      | 14      | 57   | 21   | Cloudy |
| BRUSSELS       | 10      | 50   | 23   | Cloudy |
| BIENOS AIRES   | 11      | 51   | 15   | Cloudy |
| CHICAGO        | 17      | 43   | 57   | Clear  |
| COPENHAGEN     | 7       | 45   | 17   | Clear  |
| FRANKFURT      | 13      | 55   | 23   | Clear  |
| GENEVA         | 15      | 59   | 27   | Clear  |
| HELSINKI       | 12      | 47   | 19   | Clear  |
| HONGKONG       | 27      | 81   | 31   | Clear  |
| JOHANNESBURG   | 5       | 41   | 17   | Clear  |
| LONDON         | 16      | 61   | 21   | Cloudy |
| MADRID         | 28      | 46   | 26   | Clear  |
| MONTREAL       | 11      | 52   | 25   | Cloudy |
| NEW YORK       | 17      | 63   | 28   | Cloudy |
| OSLO           | 8       | 44   | 22   | Clear  |
| PARIS          | 16      | 61   | 21   | Cloudy |
| RIO DE JANEIRO | 17      | 63   | 28   | Cloudy |
| SAO PAULO      | 15      | 59   | 26   | Cloudy |
| STOCKHOLM      | 15      | 59   | 26   | Clear  |
| TOKYO          | 26      | 79   | 32   | Clear  |
| TORONTO        | 9       | 48   | 24   | Clear  |
| VIENNA         | 13      | 56   | 19   | Cloudy |
| ZURICH         | 17      | 63   | 28   | Sunny  |

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### THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy Friday and Saturday. Normal seasonal temperatures.

|             | Yesterday's | Yesterday's | Today's |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
|             | Humidity    | Min-Max     | Max     |
| Jerusalem   | 26          | 19-32       | 32      |
| Golan       | 28          | 19-34       | 30      |
| Nahariya    | 71          | 24-31       | 31      |
| Safed       | 28          | 23-32       | 37      |
| Haifa Port  | 26          | 23-33       | 31      |
| Tiberias    | 54          | 23-39       | 34      |
| Nazareth    | 40          | 22-33       | 32      |
| Afula       | 45          | 24-36       | 31      |
| Stamora     | 30          | 22-34       | 32      |
| Tel Aviv    | 66          | 24-32       | 39      |
| B-G Airport | 52          | 22-34       | 31      |
| Jericho     | 27          | 25-41       | 34      |
| Gaza        | 68          | 25-32       | 31      |
| Eilat       | 22          | 25-35       | 34      |
| Eilat       | 13          | 29-44       | 42      |

### SOCIAL & PERSONAL

**Uruguayan Ambassador Juan Andres Pacheco** and **Mr. Manuel Berger** visited the Weizmann Institute of Science on Wednesday and were received by Institute President Prof. Aryeh Dvoretzky, Vice President Hanan Bar-On and Mr. David Moushine.

### Engagement

**ENGAGEMENT.** - Francine Kershman, daughter of Louise and Sherwin Kershman of Houston, and Reuben Yair Hazan, son of Sara and Albert Hazan of Jerusalem are happy to announce their engagement.

### 3-storey factory collapses in Holon

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**  
**TEL AVIV.** - A three-storey building collapsed last night in the Holon industrial area. One worker was lightly injured, but police said they were not sure the wound was related to the incident.  
The 12 workers inside the factory at 26 Rehov Hasadiah said the building started to shake at around 7:15 p.m. They were evacuated to the street before the entire 1,300-square-metre building crumbled floor by floor, according to the police spokesman.  
One worker, Eli Binyamin, a 30-year-old resident of Or Yehuda, was taken to Tel Aviv's Wolfson Hospital for treatment of a minor hand injury.  
Police are investigating the cause of the collapse, and the contractor who built the factory asked Holon's city engineer to inspect the site.

### T.A. bomb defused

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**  
**TEL AVIV.** - Police yesterday defused a small bomb that was discovered in the Charles Clore Park along the sea shore here.  
A sanitation worker became suspicious when he saw a garbage bag in the park at around 11:00 yesterday morning and notified the police.

### Driver swerves, kills pedestrian

**NETANYA (Itim).** - A woman was killed and a young girl seriously injured here yesterday afternoon when a car swerved onto the pavement along Rehov Shlomo Hamelech. The pedestrians had not yet been identified at the time of going to press.

### Botha to cancel 1989 poll

**CAPE TOWN (AFP).** - South African President P.W. Botha told parliament here yesterday he had decided to cancel the planned whites-only general election for 1989.  
In a shock move, Botha said that he had decided to extend the life of the present whites-only House of Assembly to five years.  
In the all-white general election last May, Botha's National Party (NP) won by a landslide victory.

## HOME NEWS

# Bir Zeit U. reopens with warning against unrest on campus

By JOEL GREENBERG  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

**BIR ZEIT** - Bir Zeit University reopened yesterday after an unprecedented four-month closure by the IDF, but the West Bank military commander immediately warned that the Palestinian campus could be closed permanently if it became the scene of further unrest.

The university, which has an enrollment of some 2,400, was ordered shut in April after a clash between IDF troops and students in which a student was shot and killed.

Yesterday the campus was calm as students milled about, greeting friends and making final registration arrangements for the new semester.

"Students want to get back to their studies and we hope all will be quiet," said student council president Laila Ramadan. "It depends on whether the Israelis cause problems."

Bir Zeit president Gabi Baramki said the university had suffered both academic and financial losses from the closure, which he called "a collective punishment...directed at the academic process itself." He said the university had lost about \$750,000.

The West Bank commander, identified as Col. Dov, said the closure proved to be an effective signal to other Palestinian campuses, which,

he said, had remained calm after the Bir Zeit shutdown. Dov was speaking at a press conference at Bet-El military headquarters marking the end of his term in command.

The commander said he hoped Bir Zeit students had "learned the lesson" from the closure and would avoid creating disturbances on the campus. He said he expected the Bir Zeit administration to control the students and prevent unrest.

"If the administration is not capable of controlling the students, and they continue to cause serious disturbances, I believe that the defence establishment will perhaps have no alternative but to close down the campus permanently," he said.

Baramki had argued that the Bir Zeit administration cannot police its students.

The commander said the current relative calm in the West Bank could be attributed to school vacations and summer visits by Palestinians from neighbouring Arab states.

The commander said the IDF was making every effort to develop non-lethal riot control equipment, so as to prevent casualties. He conceded that there had been "exceptional cases" in which soldiers had been court-martialed for violating the army's firing orders during demonstrations.

jeep. On the way back to base, Shitrit fell and injured his head.

A witness, who identified himself as a medic, urged the soldiers to call an ambulance, but they declined. They drove Shitrit to a doctor who evidently failed to give him the required treatment.

When the soldier's condition deteriorated, the base called the parents to take him home. The father was reportedly told Shitrit was pretending to be ill.

Shitrit's condition continued to deteriorate. He was taken to Poria hospital and then transferred to Haifa, where he died on April 13.

## OPPONENTS

(Continued from Page One)

Péres, Nissim and Rabin declaring their strong opposition to the continuation of the project. They said the Lavi was beyond the country's financial capabilities.

Nissim is due to address the cabinet on Sunday. He will tell the ministers that going ahead with the Lavi will cause a huge deficit in the state budget. The deficit will grow by at least NIS 500m., and could even reach NIS 1 billion if the Lavi is not terminated.

For the sake of Israel's security and economy, the Lavi must be stopped, the minister told a press conference, where he performed what was seen as his "dress rehearsal" before the cabinet meeting.

"What we need is a warm heart and a cool mind," he said. He added that there was simply no money to continue the Lavi and at the same time develop the weapons the army needs.

Nissim said some \$2b. would be saved over the next decade by purchasing F-16s rather than manufacturing the Lavi. By scrapping the Lavi there would be enough funding for the F-16s and for developing the weapons the army wants, all without running up a deficit in the state budget.

## EFRATI

(Continued from Page One)

ing on the management of the club's basketball and soccer teams.

It was his business affiliation with playboy Yair Colton, the son of manufacturer Zvi Colton, that brought to light some of Efrati's dealings. The partnership began in the mid-seventies, and one of their first projects was to bring the Italian Medrano Circus to Israel in 1977.

Their relationship seemed to deteriorate as quickly as it had developed. At one point Efrati borrowed \$70,000 from Colton; but when Colton tried in 1981 to cash a cheque given as security against the loan, Efrati apparently instructed the bank not to honour it. Colton then took his former associate to court.

During the lawsuit, Colton invited Efrati to a Tel Aviv cafe to settle the matter between them. Colton brought along a number of underworld figures, most of whom are now either dead or in prison, to back him in threatening Efrati to pay his debts.

Among those present were Rabbah Harush, known as "Asmat," who two months earlier had been released after serving 10 years for robbing a Rishon Lezion bank in 1971; Micha "Pepe" Rokenstein, another underworld personality who was given the nickname "Climbing Cat" because of his skill in breaking into apartments in high-rise buildings; and Shimaya Angel, who reportedly acted as the arbiter between Colton and Efrati. Angel is currently serving a prison term for murder.

Two other well-known criminals also present at the meeting were Ya'acov Kurkin, who was arrested last week in Amsterdam for heading a cocaine trafficking ring, and Ami Ben-Yehuda, a drug addict turned police informer who earlier this year was found dead in his apartment from an overdose.



In the battle to prevent the spread of Aids, condom dispensers are appearing in public places such as this Jerusalem cafe (Ippa)

## Aids victim may be prostitute

A Haifa woman who tested positive for Aids is believed to be working in the city as a prostitute.

The woman was discovered to have Aids some two weeks ago when she was brought to Haifa's Rambam Hospital after giving birth to a baby in her toilet. She was subsequently discharged from the hospital.

Asked why the woman was not hospitalized, Haifa District Surgeon

Dr. Shmuel Rishpon said that she would have to be persuaded to enter hospital of her own volition.

It will take up to six months to establish conclusively whether or not the baby has been infected.

Under the existing health laws - which date back to Mandatory days - it is impossible to forcibly hospitalize a person, even if there is a threat to the health of the public.

## Syria welshes on Mig 29s

Jerusalem Post Staff

The Soviet Union has not received any payment from Syria for hundreds of millions of dollars worth of military equipment, including new Mig-29 fighter planes, Israeli sources told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

Moscow is pressuring Syrian President Hafez Assad for payment on the equipment, as well as for greater flexibility on Middle East peace issues, the sources said.

According to reports reaching London, Moscow has also withdrawn 1,000 Soviet military advisers because of its annoyance with Syria, and 1,500 more are preparing to leave. But Israeli sources discounted those reports, saying no Soviet

advisers have left so far.

Soviet displeasure has also led Moscow to cut back on the number of Syrian soldiers being trained in East Germany and the Soviet Union as pilots, tank officers and intelligence officers, the reports from London said. And no additional Syrian trainee pilots will be sent to the Soviet Union until Syria begins to repay her debts.

The reason behind the Soviet decision not to supply Syria with the SS-23 missile, and to hold back delivery of some of the promised Mig-29s is said to be purely financial. Syria simply cannot afford to pay for the equipment, and the Soviet Union is not prepared to extend its credit any further.

## Russian olim end Agency sit-in

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The two-day sit-in staged by Russian immigrants in the office of the head of the Jewish Agency Aliya Department ended last night, after the agency agreed to lower rents in absorption centres for certain groups of immigrants.

A department spokesman said last night that rent hikes introduced in July would not apply to immigrants taking certain courses who stay in the centres for up to a year, or to pensioners and low-income families eligible for subsidized public housing.

ing.

In a related matter, the spokesman of the Soviet Jewry Information Centre said yesterday that reports that recent Soviet immigrant Zachar Sonnenschen had permanently left the country were incorrect, although he is currently visiting the U.S. The spokesman acknowledged that Sonnenschen had not been enthusiastic about coming to Israel and had been dissatisfied with some of his absorption arrangements, but he stressed that Sonnenschen had only gone to the U.S. to study.

## JDL men plead guilty in U.S. bombing case

NEW YORK (Reuter).

The head of the militant Jewish Defence League and two other leaders of the group pleaded guilty yesterday to federal racketeering charges stemming from a series of bombings in New York.

The FBI said Victor Vancier, 30, who is national chairman of the JDL,

and two members of the league's governing board, Jay Cohen, 24, and Murry Young, 59, conducted a bombing campaign in New York. They also face mail fraud charges.

The three pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court and will be sentenced in October. Each faces up to 20 years in prison and up to \$25,000 in fines.

## Friday night film battlers retreat

By ANDY COURT

The confrontations over Friday night movies in the capital are likely to continue this weekend, but in a different venue and on a smaller scale.

The management of the Beit

Agron Cinema decided not to screen a Friday night film this week, saying that the ultra-Orthodox protests were scaring the clients away. The Cinematheque, however, will resume its Friday night film series, which is open to subscribers who buy tickets in advance.

## Priest who led fight of Biram villagers dies

By DAVID RUDGE / Jerusalem Post Reporter

**NAZARETH.** - Hundreds of former residents of Biram village returned home temporarily earlier this week for the funeral of their priest and mentor, Yusef Soussein. Soussein, who for 40 years led the fight of ex-inhabitants to be allowed to rebuild the village, died without seeing his dream realized. He was over 80.

Scores of former residents and their families now living in South Lebanon were among the mourners. They were given permission to cross the border to attend the funeral.

Soussein was buried inside the Maronite Church, one of the few remaining buildings in the deserted village. The houses there were demolished in 1951, three years after the residents were evacuated on orders of the military authorities.

Soussein taught at a school in Acre following the evacuation and later built a home in nearby Makr village, where he lived with his family until his death.

ing.

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## Wage talks deadlocked

By JEFF BLACK

For The Jerusalem Post

The Histadrut will next week begin planning a unilateral transition to a five-day week for its institutions, according to Histadrut trade union department head Haim Haberfeld.

Haberfeld made the announcement yesterday after meeting with Hillel Duda'i, the Finance Ministry's chief wage negotiator, as public sector wage talks continued.

Yesterday's talks failed to break

the deadlock between the Histadrut and the Finance Ministry.

The union leader warned that if the Treasury continued to oppose a five-day work week and pay increases, the Histadrut would not sign a collective one-year wage deal.

Instead, said Haberfeld, each public sector union would conduct separate negotiations with its employer. He added that collective agreements should not be regarded as "sacred cows."

## IN BRIEF

### Court releases arms cache suspect on bail

A Jerusalem yeshiva student arrested two weeks ago on suspicion of stockpiling arms was released on NIS 25,000 bail yesterday by the Jerusalem Magistrates' Court.

Police arrested the youth, and two other young men, after finding petrol bombs, smoke grenades, bullets and small arms in their possession. The other two have been released.

The court ordered the youth to report to the police three times a week until his trial. (Itim)

### Negev Beduin faces espionage charge

**BEERSHEBA (Itim).** - A Beduin from the western Negev, Uda Abu Rashid, 34, has been charged in the district court here with passing information to Egyptian Intelligence. The prosecution told the court that the accused had also acquired an Uzi submachine-gun and other firearms, but had succeeded in disposing of them.

According to the charge sheet, two residents of the Gaza Strip had helped to maintain contact between the accused and the Egyptians. The two were said to have been arrested earlier. The accused was brought to court on Tuesday but the judge permitted publication of the case only yesterday.

### Arson charge in northern forest fires

**HAIFA (Itim).** - A local magistrate yesterday remanded 25-year-old Muhammad Kabha of Kfar Barta on suspicion of setting fire to hundreds of dunams of forest near Kibbutz Barka'i. The prosecution said that the suspect appeared to have nationalistic motives.

Police told the court that they had arrested two further suspects in the arson case yesterday.

Damage of tens of thousands of shekels was caused by the blaze.

## Hurt feelings strike Bezek

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Bezek's 8,500 workers held a 24-hour "collective vacation" yesterday, in the first strike against the management of the public telecommunications company in its three-and-a-half-year history.

The reason for the strike was not wage demands, but "hurt feelings." Members of the works committee were reportedly upset about a telegram it received from Bezek director-general Zvi Amid protesting against the "insolent behaviour" of one of its members a week ago. The committee member, said Amid, broke into a meeting of Bezek administrators and told staff members to walk-out.

According to Bezek officials, the committee member was "abusive." If he was acting on his own behalf, he would be disciplined, and if he was representing the workers, the director-general said, he would demand an apology.

The works committee member was apparently upset that Bezek chairman Yoram Alster had visited company facilities without being accompanied by a works committee representative. During the strike, which ended at 6 a.m. today, there were no phone installations or repairs, information services were halted, and Bezek offices were closed. The Bezek spokesman would not say last night whether workers' salaries would be docked for the day off.

## DEMO

(Continued from Page One)

but non-violent protest against a search of the volunteers' dormitory at Bir Zeit Wednesday in which three students were arrested.

The police say that the volunteers had no permit for the protest, and had begun to riot and attack soldiers who ordered them to disperse.

An American academic who was not involved in the protest said that policemen entered the lobby of the nearby Jerusalem YMCA after the demonstrators had dispersed and severely beat one of the demonstrators, even though he put up no resistance.

"The volunteer curled up in a fetal position and the soldiers hit him on the back and on the shoulders," said Antony Sullivan, a Middle East affairs consultant from Michigan who is here working on a book about educational standards and politics in four West Bank universities.

Bir Zeit officials identified the arrested students as Karim Benounne and Samir el-Sayed, both U.S. citizens; Mark Muller, a British national; and Belgian citizens Willem Defieu, Dieter Truyen, and

Abraham Franssen. They were participating in a special three-week community works programme in refugee camps and Arab villages in Israel and the territories.

Jerusalem police spokesman Rafi Levy said that the volunteers had "rioted," hitting policemen and ignoring repeated orders for them to disperse.

Levy denied claims of police brutality but said that the police were prepared to investigate any complaints that were brought to their attention.

American Consulate spokesman Edwin Cubbison said that consulate officials had notified the police about the protest but had not actually witnessed the confrontation between the demonstrators and the police. "We're still talking to people to find out what happened," Cubbison said.

The six volunteers arrested were in detention cells last night. Police had not yet decided what charges, if any, would be brought against them.

**Minister Yosef Shapira**  
Chairman of the Fund for the Commemoration of Jewish Children Who Perished in the Holocaust and the Amut's Presidium, sorely mourn the death of

**LENA KICHLER-ZILBERMAN** ז"ל  
a woman of virtue, a lover and saviour of children, author of the book "My Hundred Children" May her soul be bound up in the bond of everlasting life

A memorial service (shloshim) will be held for our beloved husband, father and grandfather

**Dr. LOUIS KATZOFF** ז"ל

at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19 (24 Av) at the Har Hamenuhot cemetery, Jerusalem.  
Following the service there will be a special memorial gathering at 5:30 p.m. at the Weizmann Hall in the Jewish Agency Building, Jerusalem.  
Transportation from 30 King David St. at 4 p.m.

The Family

With deep grief and great sorrow we announce the passing of our most beloved mother, sister and grandmother

**DVORA (Uschi) KURSCHNER**

The funeral will take place today, Friday, August 14, 1987, at 12:30 p.m. at Holon cemetery.  
We shall meet at the entrance

The bereaved Family

It is twenty years that our dear

**Dr. STEFAN CARLEBACH** ז"ל

passed away in Haifa on the 22nd of Av 1967. Still deeply mourned by his

Sister-in-law: Gina Carlebach  
Nephew: Donald and family  
Nephew: Alan

A memorial service on the First Yahrzeit of our dear

**Adv. GAD ALON** ז"ל

will take place at Har Hamenuhot Jerusalem (old section) on Tuesday, August 18, 1987, at 5:00 p.m.  
Rita Alon  
Jael, Pinney and Jehonathan Alon-Dror



# Reagan admits accountability for Iran arms sale

## President shuns key questions, urges: 'press on with the job'

WASHINGTON. — President Reagan accepted accountability for the Iran-Contra scandal but failed in his long-awaited statement on the affair to tackle key aspects of secret arms sales to Iran and aid to U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels.

In a televised speech Wednesday night, Reagan made no condemnation of law-breaking, lying to Congress and the American people and obstruction of justice exposed during 11 weeks of public congressional testimony.

And while the president for the first time acknowledged he was accountable for the excesses of his staff, saying, "the buck... stops with me," he stopped short of admitting the policy of selling U.S. arms to Iran was his own mistake.

Instead, Reagan said the mistake he made was allowing himself to become preoccupied with freeing U.S. hostages held by pro-Iranian forces in Lebanon.

"I was stubborn in my pursuit of a policy that went astray," the 76-year-old president said in his first detailed comments on the scandal since March 4.

"I let my preoccupation with the hostages intrude into areas where it didn't belong," he said.

Reagan said he was determined to press on with his agenda for the remaining 17 months of his administration.

"I'm not about to let the dust and

cobwebs settle on the furniture in this office, or on me. I have things I intend to do, and with your help we can do them."

The Democratic Party said in a formal reply that Reagan's approval of arms sales to Iran was a "mistake so grave that Americans now risk their lives in that region face the terrible possibility of attack by a nation (Iran) that we've helped to arm." But a leading Democrat agreed that once the mistakes were recognized, "they should be put behind us."

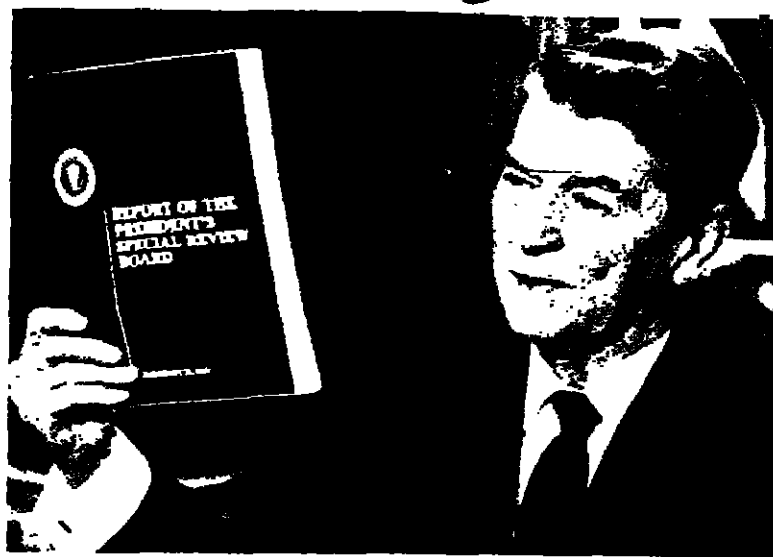
But his address, his third major speech aimed at dislodging his administration from the Iran-Contra mire, failed to answer many key questions.

How could a president propelled into office by frustration over hostages in Iran seven years ago have failed to remember approving the sale of weapons to that country?

And if he had forgotten what else had he forgotten? What else had been kept from him?

Reagan has maintained he cannot recall signing the December 1985 document authorizing the sale of U.S. arms to Iran — a document that flies in the face of his long-stated insistence that there was no swap for hostages.

Both former national security adviser John Poindexter and fired aide Oliver North testified that Reagan did sign it, and Poindexter



President Reagan holds up a copy of the Tower Commission report Wednesday night following a televised speech to the nation about the Iran-Contra hearings.

said he destroyed the paper to save Reagan from political embarrassment.

"The buck does not stop with Admiral Poindexter... it stops with me," Reagan declared. "I am the one ultimately responsible to the American people," Reagan said.

Senator George Mitchell, a Maine democrat and member of the Senate Iran-Contra Committee, in a televised response to the president's speech sought to lay the blame

squarely on Reagan.

"Let there be no misunderstanding," Mitchell said. "The mistakes were not only in the execution of policies. The major mistakes were the policies themselves — and the policies were the president's."

But Mitchell also sounded a conciliatory note. "These were serious mistakes," he said. "But once recognized and corrected they should put behind us, for there's much to be done together." (Reuter, AP)

## 6th mine found off Gulf port

Post Middle East Staff and agencies

Part of the busy Fujairah anchorage just outside the Gulf was closed to ships yesterday, and two American oil firms, Chevron Oil Corp. and Mobil Oil Corp. ordered their oil tankers to stay away from the mine-plagued waters.

There were reports yesterday that as many as six mines had been discovered off the United Arab Emirates port of Fujairah in the search operation triggered by the mine explosion that damaged an American-operated supertanker on Monday.

But other sources said that only three mines had been discovered in the search.

Ships would be barred from an area of up to 90 square km. off Fujairah, shipping sources said, but the port itself would remain open to navigation.

Meanwhile, the U.S. assault ship Guadalcanal was en route to the Gulf from the Indian Ocean yesterday with eight mine-hunting helicopters on board.

## Iran to sweep

LONDON (AFP). — Iranian naval units will today start minesweeping maneuvers in international waters in the Gulf, Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said yesterday in a dispatch monitored here by the BBC.

Teheran Radio said on Wednesday that Iran had asked the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for permission to "collaborate with the UAE to clean up" the region of mines, but Teheran had yet to receive an answer.

Informed sources in the emirate of Abu Dhabi said yesterday that the UAE did not "want to react to this proposal."

The Netherlands and Italy will soon join France and Britain in sending minesweepers to the Gulf to protect their shipping the *Minneapolis Star* and *Tribune* reported yesterday. The paper, quoting an unnamed senior U.S. government official, said that despite denials to the contrary by the four countries, the European minesweeping teams would be working in tandem with the U.S. minesweeping forces in the region.

Diplomatic pressure built up against Iran yesterday as Kuwait thanked Western countries for helping to ensure safe navigation through the Gulf.

"The heat on Iran is extraordinary," said a senior Western diplomat in Kuwait. "It's the first time since the revolution (in 1979) that Iran has so few friends."

But Iran yesterday intensified its criticism of the Western military presence on the Gulf, with Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati warning that Tehran will confront "foreign intervention" in the region.

The U.S. on Wednesday urged that the UN Security Council move towards an arms embargo against Iran, which has said the recent UN ceasefire resolution approved was "unimportant." However, Teheran has avoided a categorical rejection of it.

Elsewhere in the region, the U.S. and Egypt yesterday geared up for five days of joint military exercises, codenamed Brightstar 1987, which start tomorrow.

The exercises will involve about 9,000 U.S. troops, and are seen as a test of America's ability to defend its allies in the region.



East German Manfred Rotsch (left), believed to be the Eastern bloc's top spy, enters a car Wednesday to cross the border from West Germany as part of a spy swap.

## East-West spy swap at Checkpoint Charlie

BONN (Reuter). — West Germany won a battle to free a woman prisoner in East Germany but at the high price of a top grade communist spy.

The swap came less than four weeks before a historic visit to West Germany by East German leader Erich Honecker.

Bonn government sources said Christa-Karin Schumann, 52, the friend of an East German admiral executed for spying, was released at the East-West Herleshausen checkpoint Wednesday in the kind of deal loved by thriller writers.

East Germany's price was Manfred Rotsch, 63, a top aerospace engineer convicted of passing on secrets of the Tornado combat plane to the Soviet KGB during a 30-year spying career, and who had access to West Germany's work on artificial satellites.

## Family's mountain climb with infant thwarted

CHAMONIX, France (AP). — Police on Wednesday took a young Polish couple into custody to prevent them from climbing Europe's highest peaks with their two young children.

A helicopter dispatched by Chamonix authorities picked up Elisabeth Kowalczyk, 34, and her two children at 7 p.m. to fly them back to the city. Her husband, Andrzej, 38, remained in police custody at about 3,000 metres, where the family was stopped.

Regional authorities had earlier threatened to pursue child-abuse charges if the pair attempted the dangerous climb with their two children, aged 2 and 11.

The couple had hoped to carry the 2-year-old, Jean-Jacques, up 4,807 m. to the top of Mont Blanc in a baby carrier, where he would have set a record as the youngest person ever to achieve the summit.

## Aquino to visit China

MANILA (Reuter). — Philippine President Corazon Aquino will visit China early next year, the foreign office said after her government affirmed its one-China policy and apologized for a diplomatic row over Taiwan, which it said was due to an "honest mistake."

Foreign affairs department sources said that the controversy had erupted after a presidential palace statement described Taiwan as "the Republic of China."

## Armenians petition on territorial claim

MOSCOW (AFP). — Soviet Armenians have called on Soviet authorities to incorporate the small autonomous Soviet republic of Nakhichevan into the Armenian republic, an organizer of a petition signed by 75,000 Armenians here said.

Nakhichevan, bordering on Iran, was part of Armenia until 1924 when it was incorporated into the Soviet republic of Azerbaijan, despite being separated from it by a tract of the Armenian republic.

## Rhodes forest fires doused

ATHENS. — Fire-fighters have finally put out massive forest fires which have swept the Greek holiday island of Rhodes for four days, government spokesman Yannis Roubatis said yesterday.

He told reporters mopping up operations were going on but the blaze, which destroyed more than 200,000 acres (800,000 dunams) of forest and olive and orange groves and killed thousands of sheep and cattle, had now been extinguished.

## Titanic's locked safe found

PARIS (AP). — Treasure hunters have found the shipwrecked Titanic's safe and plan to open it during a live television broadcast, an expedition spokesman said yesterday.

The locked safe was found Wednesday on the ocean floor 4 km. below the surface at the Titanic site, 520 km. south-west of Newfoundland, spokesman Daniel Puget said. He said the safe is locked and would not speculate on its contents.

## Afghan rebels shoot down plane

MOSCOW (AP). — The official Soviet news agency Tass said Afghan rebels using a U.S.-supplied Stinger heat-seeking missile shot down a Soviet-built transport plane yesterday, killing 12 people aboard.

The agency, quoting Afghanistan's Bakhtar information agency, said the Afghan Antonov-26 was hit over the Dera-Mangal region as it flew between Kabul, the capital, and the city of Khost near the Pakistan border.

Tass said the dead were seven passengers, including two children, and five crew. It did not say whether there were any survivors.

## 350,000 miners on strike in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (AP). — As mine owners claimed yesterday that the black mineworkers' strike is beginning to wane, the union said 10,000 more workers joined the nation's largest ever legal walkout.

The workers walked off the job at 10 gold, coal and antimony mines and at processing plants, said Cyril Ramaphosa, general secretary for the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM).

He declined to say how many workers are involved in the strike, now in its sixth day. Earlier, the union put the figure at 342,000.

The Chamber of Mines, which represents the six major mining houses, said the number of strikers had dropped from 40 per cent of the black work force to under one-third — or from about 230,000 to less than 300,000.

The mining houses said hundreds of workers at several mines returned to their jobs during the night shift, but did not refer to the union's claim that 10,000 others had joined the walkout.

The black miners, who earn about a fifth what white miners do, are seeking a 30 per cent wage hike.

As the strike became increasingly bitter, several companies accused strikers of sabotage and 19 people were reported injured in overnight clashes between strikers and mine security officers.

The NUM says 177 of its members have been arrested — including 78 whom police accuse of plotting to kill strike-breakers.

## Bullet-proof fete for India's holiday

NEW DELHI (AFP). — India's senior leaders will wear bullet-proof jackets and sit behind bullet-proof glass while lesser guests have been ordered to empty their pockets before attending Independence Day celebrations tomorrow.

The unprecedented security arrangements have been made following reports that Sikh militant hit squads have sneaked into the Indian capital ahead of the Independence Day celebrations.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will don a steel-knit jacket when he mounts the battlements of the 17th century Red Fort to review the state of the nation on India's 40th independence day amid security arrangements historic in scale, police said.

Gandhi, who prefers imported lightweight armoured undershirts, escaped with minor bruises earlier this month when he was assaulted by a Sri Lankan sailor during a parade of honour guards in Colombo.

The premier's bodyguards will shadow him while he inspects an honour guard at the Red Fort — this time walking an extra foot away from the soldiers, who will be carrying empty rifles, security officials said.

Most of Gandhi's cabinet colleagues will attend the celebrations in concealed armour while some 1,200 less illustrious guests will be seated out of range of Gandhi, his family, and a few carefully chosen guests, they said.

Invited dignitaries have been requested to "look after

themselves" while attending the ceremony and to duck at strange sounds.

Two Soviet-built combat helicopters will shower flower petals on the visitors and then hover over the Red Fort to assist some 15,000 policemen and plainclothesmen who have been ordered to search for any potential assassin.

Police have ordered thousands of residents of the crowded Chandni Chowk market areas near the Red Fort not to open their windows or climb on their terraces during Gandhi's 40-minute speech. Police sharpshooters will be perched on most of the local rooftops, the officials said.

Meanwhile, four policemen guarding the residence of a newspaper editor in Punjab State's Jalandhar City were found shot dead early yesterday, Punjab Police Chief Julio Ribeiro said.

In New Delhi, security forces killed three Sikh separatists in overnight incidents in the Punjab and beefed up patrols on the state's border with Pakistan to cut off militants fleeing the country, reports said here on Wednesday.

Hundreds of troops have been strung along the 560-kilometre-long border in the northern Indian state following reports that Sikh militants may try to escape to Pakistan to avoid detection, a federal paramilitary spokesman said.

## Strikes spread in S. Korea despite employers' appeal

SEOUL (AP). — The nation's main employer group appealed yesterday for worker cooperation to avert an "unhappy outcome" to the labour strife crippling the showcase auto industry and other major industries.

The Labour Ministry reported that while 29 disputes were settled yesterday, 53 new ones erupted.

In a special message addressed to "10 million workers," the Korea Employers' Federation promised to "do our best to increase workers' rights and interests such as better working conditions."

The Labour Ministry said strikes for more pay and freer unions were under way at 240 workplaces yesterday with the auto industry at a standstill for the second day in a row.

Officials did not say how many workers were idle but their number is believed to be in the hundreds of thousands.

With no sign of a quick resolution to the wave of labour unrest, the nation's business managers urged strikers to settle demands one by one

through dialogue and not wreck their companies.

Roh Tae Woo, President Chun Doo Hwan's hand-picked successor, admitted the unrest stems from an "accumulation of grievances" and said "labour thinks it should have more of a fair share." Roh, president of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, said the government should take a "balanced approach" and let labour and management "deal with each other without interference."

The labour unrest comes in the wake of the nationwide political unrest last month that forced Chun's authoritarian government to pledge major democratic reforms — including relaxation of curbs on strikes.

The strikes began at big manufacturing companies and spread to nearly all other industries, including electronics, services and mining.

## Lebanese economy facing disaster

BEIRUT (AP). — War-plagued Lebanon is heading toward an economic disaster and will have no bread, fuel or electricity in about one month, Economy Minister Victor Kassir warned yesterday.

"We are on the brink of a disaster," Kassir said in a statement broadcast by local radio stations.

Lebanon's diesel oil supplies "will run out in one month. Central Bank Governor Edmond Naim has already informed me that the bank will not be able to allocate funds for further imports of diesel oil," Kassir announced.

"Bakeries will not be able to operate and there will be no electricity after the present supplies run out," he said.

The electricity authority uses the fuel for its grid and almost all bakeries in Lebanon operate on diesel oil.

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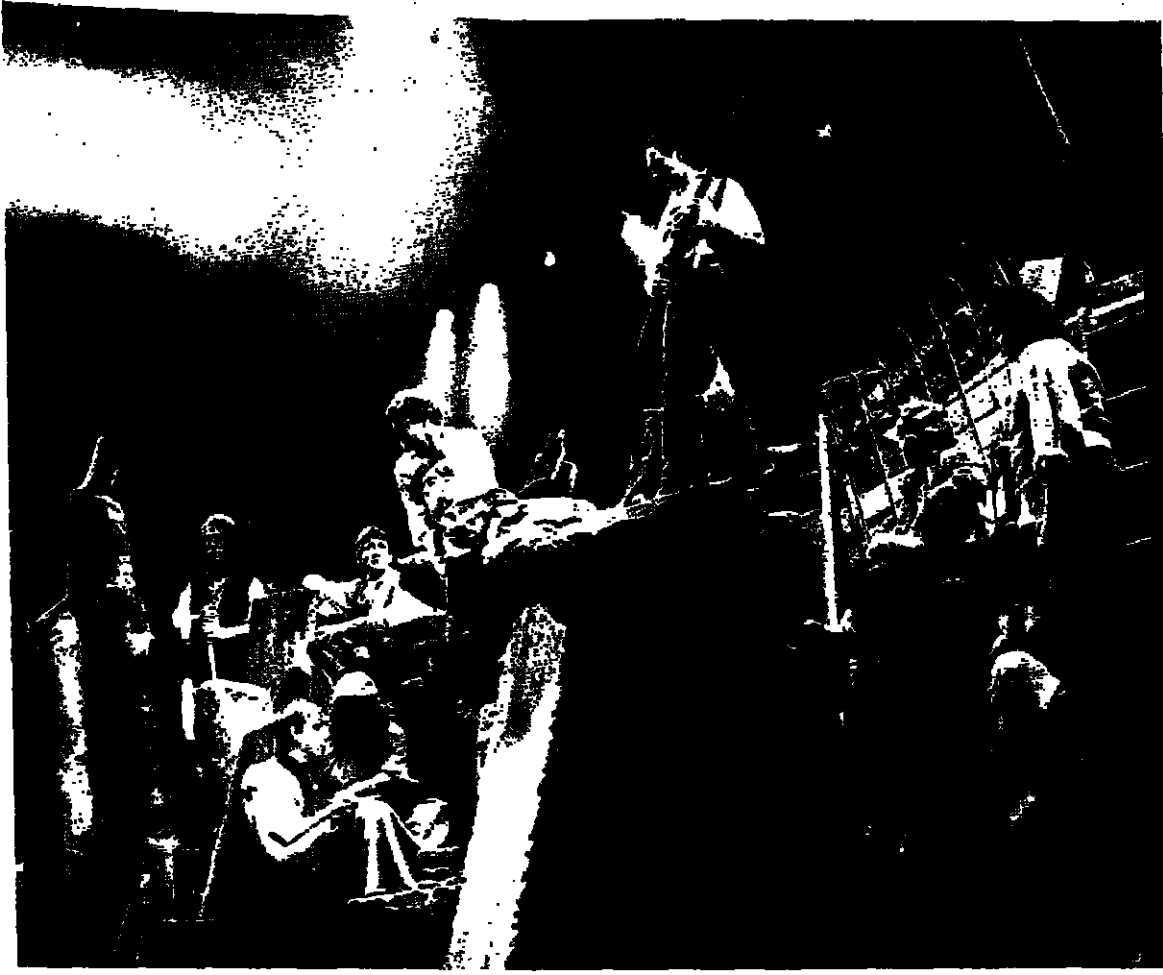
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Tamar, the Opera Office, Tel Aviv Municipality, 69 Ibn Gabirol St. 5th floor, room 534. Tel. 03-226629, 03-225520, 03-439546.

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Department for Commandments Related to Eretz Yisrael  
(Mitzvot Hatehuyot Ba'aretz)  
To all rabbis in Israel:  
Recently additional lists have been sent to the country's rabbis on settlements whose fruits are not suspect of orla (prohibition on the use of the fruit of trees during the first three years after planting).  
Please bring this notice to the attention of the public. Rabbis who have not received the lists are kindly requested to contact the above department.  
In addition, rabbis providing settlements with certification on the above matter, are requested to forward copies of such certification to the Chief Rabbinate, so that the settlements in question may be added to the general lists.  
Department for Commandments Related to Eretz Yisrael





'On the Barricades' in 'Les Misérables.'

Cadre of stars shine in 'Les Misérables'

## Triumph in the theatre

*Les Misérables* (Ahava HaChana) - A musical by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg. Based on the novel by Victor Hugo. Music - Claude-Michel Schönberg. Translation - Elmad Manner. English lyrics - Herbert Kretzmer. Direction - Steven Paskett. Musical Direction - Elmad Manner. The Cameri Theatre, Tel Aviv.

*Les Misérables* is one of the best things that has happened in theatre here for years. But despite the programme's claim, let's not get it wrong. This is no ordinary musical, but a musical with a message.

Originally conceived as a Rock Opera in 1980 by two Frenchmen, Boublil and Schönberg, it bridged the gap between Rock and mod musical four years later in an English reincarnation with the RSC under the direction of Trevor Nunn, ending up as what it is today, a West End (that is, commercial) hit.

That, and its debt to Hugo, accounts for a certain mixture in literary as well as musical styles.

Although it starts off with a fanfare of musical melodrama in a quasi-contemporary operatic key, it soon travels, together with text and libretto, in the direction of punkish pain and protest, touching on low Rock romantic antics and reaching heights of simple sobriety on the way.

What connects Hugo with this modern musical?

One of the greatest writers of the French Romantic School, the most eloquent defender of liberty in general, and of the downtrodden masses of his time in particular, Hugo and his socio-humanitarian philosophy of revolt ties up with the less well-defined Rock vision of today. The apparent paradox and incredible incongruity disappear when you remember that with its harsh harmonies, its aggressive lyrics and electronic rhythms, Rock is essentially out to state contemporary youth's struggle for change.

In other words, its anti-establishment screams present a parallel to Hugo's poetry and prose revolt against Restoration reactionaries, a slim resemblance perhaps, but striking in its relevance. Thematically, as material for a

musical, the fortunes of the fighters for freedom on the barricades may or may not be to your taste. If spectacle in the style of *Oklahoma* is what you're after, or you still have a hang-up about the original novel, or cannot stomach the fashionable kitsch of unabashed sentiment piled on morbid melodrama, you may not be mad about the content.

But, however much you are put off by any of this, you will not fail to be astounded by the quality of the execution, musical and stage skills that reach a level more superb than anything seen here except in our best ballet and dance groups.

A cadre of stars drawn from a dozen branches of light entertainment have been assembled and integrated into a uniquely homogeneous, almost seamless performance. The discovery of unsuspected talent, artistic depth rarely on display in the run of their show-biz careers, astounds as much as all the rest. Thus, if Albert Cohen as Thénardier, social scavenger and sewer rat (partnered by Tiki Dayan, a rollicking Madame Thénardier hardly surprised with his sheer virtuosity, Avi Toledano, Eurovision artist and popular singer, is a delightful - dramatic as well as musical - discovery as Marius, the romantic hero. The same goes for Dudu Fisher, who graduates from lighter opera as well as hazanot to shine in a heavy and authentic operatic role as Jean Valjean.

Ricki Gal, a much-recorded Rock singer, contributes a strong stage presence as Fantine, though her vocal style, full of poignancy fragmenting into pathos, must please her fans. The husband and wife team from the *HaKol Over Habbibi* group on the other hand, give splendidly polished and moving renderings, both as actors and singers, in the respective roles of Enjolras, the rebel student leader (Yuval Dor) and Eponine (Shlomit Aharon).

Perhaps the most impressive of them all was Elinor Yeini, one of the original *Tarnegolim*, who, like his

well-remembered hero in the film *Where is Daniel Wax*, disappeared for years. He makes a triumphant return as Javert, the symbol of the Law and the Spirit of Evil who is the figure of menace throughout the three-and-a-half-hour show.

The above is a sampling of a cast of 40 actors and the same number of French, English and Israeli creative technicians. It does not include the 20 member orchestra, heard but not seen because it is housed on a higher floor of the Frishman complex.

The achievement, however, is in the quality and not the quantity, and represents a triumph for Israeli theatre arts.

Steven Pimlott is an operatic director of international repute who demonstrates powers of discipline and even magnetism in excess of those ordinarily exercised by our local directors. His orchestration of movement (Claude Shagrin and Peter Rot), choral and vocal styles (Adi Elzoukha coached), and other stage effects is consistently inspired and controlled. It is matched in every way by the design and dynamics of the sound and lighting men.

Although conceived by their English counterparts, the on-the-spot implementation 'carried out' by Ayelet Harpaz (assisting Brian Harris, one of Europe's top lighting men) and by Asher Bitansky (manipulating Jonathan Dean's highly sophisticated sound equipment) set new standards in stage technology here. The latter achieved the subtlest sound effects, among other things, by means of cleverly concealed mini-mikes worn underneath the actors' hair; while, with her lighting, the former gave to Ruth Dar's pointedly drab sets the deeper dimension of a Daumier study.

In short, despite the schmalz and schmerz of romantic Rock rebel posturings, the grim social significance of Hugo's opus does emerge, together with, in the best Beates tradition, the statement that it is love, not war, that must prevail.

NAOMI DOUDAI

## Jehan Sadat: a determined will to learn the truth

By WALTER RUBY

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK - Jehan Sadat insisted that she and her son Gamal be at the autopsy of her assassinated husband, the Egyptian president, because she suspected that some of the bullets in his body had been fired by someone other than the Moslem fundamentalist assassins who charged the presidential reviewing stand in Cairo in 1981.

Jehan Sadat, who says she "trusted no one" in the aftermath of the shooting of her husband, concluded that no one else had fired at the president. Gamal Sadat studied a bullet removed from his father Anwar and concluded that it had come from the machineguns fired by the fundamentalist assailants.

In her just-published autobiography, *A Woman of Egypt* (Simon and Schuster), Jehan Sadat reveals for the first time that she suspected a wider conspiracy in her husband's assassination.

She writes that in the immediate aftermath of the murder, she was consumed with suspicion that his killers had cooperation from highly-placed officials. She asks, "How could members of the army have killed him? Who was responsible for the lack of security? Every other year a regiment of guerrilla forces had led the parade, then taken up position between the president and the rest of the troops. This year they had not... Each army vehicle was supposed to have been checked several times before reaching the reviewing stand to make sure no one carried live ammunition. But somehow these three men, an officer and two enlisted men, had managed to arrive in front of my husband with live ammunition."

She continues: "Like the assassination of John F. Kennedy, no one believed the attack on the president of Egypt could be the act of a few... [it] had to be the plot of many... Everyone in Egypt [was] blaming everybody. The Presidential Guard... [was] blaming the Army Guards and vice versa. And both... [were] putting the blame on the president's special security men."

When Prime Minister Fuad Mui el-Din asked for Jehan's permission for an autopsy to be performed on Sadat, as part of the investigation into his assassination, Jehan agreed on condition that she and Gamal be present. At the time, she explained that she wanted her son to have an opportunity to say goodbye to his father. However, according to Jehan, the "real reason" was that Gamal "knew a great deal about guns and ammunition and could see if the bullets in his father's body came from the machineguns of the terrorists or from some other guns, even a pistol. Perhaps my husband had been shot from the back by someone in the stands sympathetic to the Moslem fanatics or even by a member of the government at the same time the assassins were shooting from the front."

Jehan writes that the surgeon-general tried to dissuade her and Gamal from watching the autopsy, but after a call from Gamal, the new



Jehan Sadat, widow of Anwar Sadat.

(Ippa)

president, Hosni Mubarak, ordered the doctors to admit Jehan and her son to the autopsy.

Having steeled herself for the ordeal of viewing a corpse that might be badly torn apart, Jehan was surprised that "his body looked perfect... I could see only three tiny holes, one in the leg, and two in the chest, just below the heart. They looked more like little bruises than... mortal wounds... But where my hands felt his body, it was freezing. There was no life. I kissed him for the last time on his forehead. He was like ice."

Jehan writes that after the doctors removed one of the bullets from Sadat's shoulder, "Gamal took it from the doctor, and studied it carefully. It was the same type as those fired from the terrorists' machineguns. No one else had fired on my husband. 'We can leave now,' I said to Gamal. And we returned home while the doctors completed the official autopsy."

## Police raid pirate TV station in Haifa

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA - The country's first "pirate" TV station, broadcasting via satellite from a private house in the plush Danya (Hod Hacarmel) quarter, was raided by the Communications Ministry and the police on Wednesday night.

The ministry spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* that while the officials were dismantling the expensive equipment, telephone calls streamed in from an estimated 60 subscribers who wanted to know why the broadcasts had ceased.

He said the owner of the house kept five large satellite-receiving dishes on his roof and offered real-time broadcasts from the U.S., the USSR and Luxembourg to subscribers who were hooked up by a cable network and reportedly paid a NIS 40 monthly fee for the service.

The spokesman said that while the reception of TV broadcasts via such dishes by private individuals was permitted by law, their dissemination to others was not. Kibbutzim, which operate cable television for their members in this way, are specifically excluded from the prohibition, he said.

## 'Perdition' staged in Edinburgh

By DAVID HOROVITZ

LONDON - The staging of *Perdition* at the Edinburgh Festival is finally on, and Jim Allen's anti-Zionist play will receive its first performance at the Lyceum Studio Theatre next Monday.

The play was to be given its premiere on Monday at the Edinburgh Assembly Rooms, but the theatre's artistic director, William Burdett-Coutts, blocked the performance because he didn't think the play was good enough to stage.

Almost all of the original cast of *Perdition* - which was dropped hours before its scheduled opening by London's Royal Court Theatre earlier this year - will perform on Monday, and Ken Loach will direct.

## CORRECTION

A 14-year-old girl, Leentje Van Hamme, was joint first prize winner (with Lutfi Madani) in a competition on the Arab-Israeli conflict held by the Israeli Information Centre in Brussels and not Brussels University, as reported in yesterday's Post. Both winners are now touring the country.

## 13,000 Soviet visas given out in 1987

MOSCOW (Reuter) - About 13,000 Soviet citizens have received permission this year to settle abroad, about double last year's number, the head of the visa-issuing authority Ovir said yesterday.

Rudolf Kuznetsov told a news conference his organization did not keep statistics on the nationalities of those allowed to leave, but diplomats said most were Jews, ethnic Germans and Armenians.

"Permits for permanent residence

have been given to 13,000 people in the last seven months. That is double the size of last year," Kuznetsov said.

Jewish emigration reached a peak of 51,000 in 1979 and Jewish lobbies in the West estimate that up to 400,000 Soviet Jews would like to emigrate.

Kuznetsov denied that many people were refused visas because of an excessively broad interpretation of laws saying a person deemed to have

had access to state secrets cannot leave the Soviet Union.

He said new laws promulgated this year would help the cases of Soviet citizens wanting to go abroad with their spouses.

But one spouse, Susan Graham of Spokane, Washington, whose husband Matvey Finkel has been denied permission to leave for eight years, said of Kuznetsov's remark: "I've heard it all before. Nothing has changed."



Aluf Matan Vilna, head of the IDF's manpower division, congratulates Keren Weiss of New York for being the outstanding student on a Nahal programme for children of yordim, at a ceremony at the Western Wall yesterday.

(Photo: IDF)

(Continued from Page One)

Companies Authority, and vested this power in a new committee of the board dominated by Diaspora businessmen.

Pressure from the fund-raisers at that time also forced Duzin to promise not to seek re-election.

Agency observers noted that the tenacity with which Duzin held onto the companies can be explained mainly by the opportunities this provided for appointing political cronies to directorships.

The new companies committee of the board has adopted the recommendation of the Lankin Committee to appoint an official with special powers to supervise the companies and to arrange for the sale of most of the agency's assets. Israeli businessman Eli Streit was recently named to

## AGENCY

this post. The committee has also hired an American accounting firm to assess the financial performance of the companies.

The Lankin Committee found that the structure set up in 1978 to supervise and control the agency's holdings "is not effective, lacks the ability to make timely and correct business decisions, is unclear in its lines of responsibility, has not provided clear direction to the staff of the Companies Authority, and has not fully informed or involved the members of the Companies Authority Council in the decision-making process."

The Companies Authority Council was supposed to be the supreme supervisory body for the companies,

and was disbanded when control of the companies was shifted to the new committee of the board.

The agency's holdings, most of which were acquired decades ago to promote the goals of settlement and economic development, include firms dealing in real estate, construction, wineries, housing, aviation, convention centres, research, publishing, food processing, tourism, and furniture manufacture.

The Lankin report recommended that the agency dispose of its holdings in El Al, Mekorot, Carmel Wineries, Yachin Hakal, and the Israel Land Development Company (Haheva Lehabsharat Hayishuv), but that it retain an interest in the Israel Museum and a few other bodies of national and cultural significance.

R.L.L. Batuhoth (1983) B.M.

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L.D.B. Securities (1983) Ltd.

Clall Batuhoth (1983) B.M.

Mizrahi Batuhoth (1983) B.M.

## Notice Regarding an Amendment to the Arrangement Made with the Government of Israel Regarding Bank Shares Blocked in Special Blocked Accounts.

Notice is hereby given of an amendment to the arrangement made with the Government of Israel regarding bank shares blocked for six years by an individual, kibbutz or moshav shifrit, with the right to choose to sell them after four years, in respect of which all the conditions which appeared in the original arrangement have been met.

In accordance with the amendment to the arrangement, shares which were blocked in special blocked accounts and which until October 30, 1987 were held in such blocked accounts by an individual, kibbutz or moshav shifrit in compliance with the abovementioned conditions, will be purchased by the companies from any holder who so wishes (whether or not he is the original holder) on the dates and at the prices set out below.

- The companies will pay on October 31, 1989 to a holder of such shares who so wishes the higher of the following amounts:
  - a sum in NIS equal to 1.34 U.S. dollars, in consideration for shares whose value on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange on October 6, 1983 was equal to one U.S. dollar (subject to adjustment, including for cash dividends);
  - a sum in NIS equal to 1.12 U.S. dollars, in consideration for shares whose value on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange on October 6, 1983 was equal to one U.S. dollar (subject to adjustment, including for cash dividends), increased by the rate of any rise in the Consumer Price Index between the index published for the month of October 1987 and the index published for the month of September 1989.
- The companies will pay on October 31, 1988 to a holder of such shares who so wishes a sum in NIS equal to 1.04 U.S. dollars, in consideration for shares whose value on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange on October 6, 1983 was one U.S. dollar (subject to adjustment, including for cash dividends).

In accordance with the arrangement, the Government of Israel will make moneys available to the companies, on the terms and in the manner determined in the agreements between them and the Government.

Details of the amendment to the arrangement, as determined in the agreements between the companies and the Government of Israel, and the irrevocable undertakings of the companies to holders of shares as mentioned above, will be published in Government Notices (*Yalut Ha-Pirsumim*). The binding undertakings are those published therein.

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## Notice to Holders of Bank Shares that were Deposited in Special Blocked Accounts.

The companies hereby inform holders of bank shares that were deposited with the option of selling them following a four-year period, according to the terms of the "bank shares arrangement," that they are entitled, during the period between August 16, 1987 and October 20, 1987, to give notice of their intention to sell the shares they deposited, and to receive the value fixed in the arrangement on October 30, 1987.

Within the next few days, a notice will be sent to each eligible holder, advising him that if he wishes to sell his shares as abovementioned, he should, during the abovementioned period, go to the bank branch in which his special blocked account is maintained and instruct the bank regarding the sale of the shares in accordance with the terms of the arrangement.

An eligible holder who does not, for any reason, receive a personal notice during September is requested to go to the bank branch in order to submit his instructions with regard to this matter.

A legal representative (their or estate administrator) of a holder of a special blocked account as abovementioned is requested to contact the bank branch in which the account is maintained.

The shares of any eligible holder who does not give instructions to his bank by October 20, 1987 will be released from blocking in the account, and the terms of the arrangement, as amended, will apply thereto.

It has been agreed, in principle, with the management of The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, that the shares so released as mentioned above will be listed for trade on the Stock Exchange, with effect from November 1, 1987. The Stock Exchange will ensure that such shares are identified so as to distinguish them from the other bank shares which are presently traded.

The arrangements for trading on the Stock Exchange will not apply to Bank Eapoalim preferred shares or NIS 1 and NIS 5 shekel shares of the Finance and Trade Bank.



# 'Why should we have to pay our hard-earned dollars to boost your prestige'

## AMERICA'S CASE AGAINST THE LAVI

David Makovsky/Washington

LAST THURSDAY, the new Israeli Ambassador to the U.S., Moshe Arad, paid an introductory visit to Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger at the Pentagon. Often these first meetings are courtesy calls, but not this time. There was a major case on the agenda of U.S.-Israel relations, the Lavi.

For virtually the entire meeting, Weinberger and his top aides spoke in the bluntest of terms about how the project is wasting U.S. tax dollars. According to Israeli sources, Weinberger said, "Israel has to get rid of this project. It is in both of our interests. It is taking money from other vital security programmes." He added that U.S. military aid is given purely to address issues of military security, and not to solve other economic problems.

Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Richard Armitage, who has been a key supporter of strong military cooperation with Israel, later gave an equally frank assessment. He told *The Jerusalem Post*, "The Pentagon's position regarding the Lavi has long been understood. We believe that immediate termination is in the best interest of Israel. These valuable dollars should be best used in support of other critical programmes."

An Israeli source involved in U.S.-Israel relations said that, while there have been deep divisions between the two countries in the past, he could not recall a more "brutal tone" in U.S. dealings with Israel than on the issue of the Lavi.

This tough approach was seen this past Tuesday, when State Department spokesman Charles Redman flatly stated that the U.S. wants Israel to "terminate the Lavi," saying it was in the "best interests" of both countries. The Israeli source noted: "Since when does the State Department tell Israel what is in its best interest?"

THERE IS no doubt that the issue of the Lavi has aroused passion and frustration among U.S. officials. It is unusual in Washington when one cannot find an administration source offering dissenting view from the official position. Yet, the Lavi is such a case.

One even-tempered administration official spoke with more than a tinge of angst about the merits of the Lavi. "This issue has raised a lot of

passion because of the lack of logic in going ahead with it. There are some damn good alternatives to the Lavi that could help Israel get into the 21st century." National prestige cannot be an overriding concern.

He added that nobody is saying that it is a poor quality plane. "The avionics and the rest are state-of-the-art, yet the issue is: 'What is best for the defence of Israel with the money it has?' Can the consortium of Israel and the U.S. afford it? The answer is no."

The U.S. has already contributed about \$1.5 billion towards the Lavi. Analysts say two thirds of that amount, about \$1 billion, has been spent in Israel. Under U.S. legislation, Israel has been able to spend up to \$550 million of its annual \$1.8 billion of military aid, on building the Lavi. The U.S. share stands at 90 per cent of all the money spent on the project, and therefore its say on the matter is of considerable interest to the Israeli policymakers.

In his statement, Redman said that continuing the Lavi would mean the "crowding out" of other security programmes currently covered by U.S. military aid. Analysts here say the programme that may be cut should the Lavi continue are key Israeli naval projects like the Dolphin submarine, as well as Army tank and helicopter modernization projects.

U.S. officials have also talked repeatedly, and most recently in a meeting last month between Rabin and Weinberger, about concessionary rates,

YET, THE LAVI issue also invites passion and frustration here for reasons that touch upon some broader issues.

One is the issue of the use of U.S. money. An Israeli source said that while the overall level of military aid is set by the Congress, how Israel wishes to use those funds should be Israel's business. It is precisely this attitude that infuriates U.S. officials.

As one Pentagon official put it: "The American taxpayer is entitled to the most cost-effective use of its tax dollars."

Another administration source said, "There is a feeling that Israel is acting presumptuously. To make a decision to continue a project that almost exclusively derives from U.S. funds is an implicit statement that the U.S. will bail out Israel."

There is no doubt that there is resentment among some U.S. officials who privately are unhappy with the virtual sacrosanct position of Israel in Congress. The issue of the Lavi has exposed a cleavage between those who truly feel that Israel is a strategic asset and those who feel its importance is a result of its mighty domestic base in the U.S. Those who take the latter position believe, administration sources say, U.S. generosity has been overextended and, in the case of the Lavi, been taken advantage of. These sources say one could mistake the intimacy of relations between the two countries as meaning that all of the U.S. government believes that Israel has vital strategic meaning.

The issue of sovereignty also comes up in the

controversy over the Lavi. U.S. officials say their views of the fighter do not impinge upon Israel's sovereignty because it is American money that is at stake. Israel can reject U.S. funds, officials say, but it cannot have it both ways.

The issue of American jobs is also not totally insignificant. While Israel has about 120 contracts with 110 U.S. firms for sums of \$800 million, the Congressional Research Service says the fact that so much "offshore funds" are being spent — \$300 million allowed to be used in Israel during this fiscal year — has meant 3,000 to 5,000 U.S. jobs are lost.

U.S. OFFICIALS have said that because the Lavi has so many American parts, including an engine, it will need a U.S. authorization should Israel seek to eventually export the plane. Officials say the U.S. has no intention of providing that sort of permission for the Lavi, given the U.S.'s own defense industry needs and the security risk of selling the plane to certain Third World countries.

There is awareness here of the element of national prestige in Israel, and it has probably worked to the detriment of those making strategic arguments for the Lavi. "When a decision is made on grounds other than national security, however broadly defined, Pentagon officials will likely look askance at future 'Israeli requests that purport to be made in the name of national security,'" Zackheim said succinctly.

Perhaps what irks officials most is a perceived Israeli insensitivity to America's fiscal situation, given mammoth deficits and the Gramm-Rudman legislation that mandates cuts for years ahead until (an ever elusive) balanced budget is reached.

An unusual dynamic has been at work. On the one hand, the State Department's foreign aid programme has been slashed worldwide by 20 per cent, with some countries suffering reductions of over 40 per cent, so Israel and Egypt will not have to be cut at all. "Israel now receives 25-30 per cent of all military aid assistance, and two countries — Israel and Egypt — comprise over 40 per cent of all foreign aid. To Israel's credit, the perennially unpopular foreign aid bill passes in no small measure as a result of Israel's coattails."

WHAT WILL happen to U.S.-Israel relations should the cabinet vote to continue the project? White House chief of staff Howard Baker told a Jewish delegation the other day that there would be "no retribution" on the Lavi. Yet, at the same time, senior officials conceded that a harmful political fallout is inevitable.

One long-time Washington watcher said that he doubted that the issue will spill over and hurt Israel's position with the American public. "It is too much of an insider's argument. Remember, in a recent poll, a good percentage of the American people thought Jonathan Pollard was a Russian spy instead of an Israeli one. So, it is doubtful that the Lavi issue will follow closely enough to hurt Israel."

Yet, there is another key factor, the Pentagon bureaucracy, that could be damaging to Israel. For Pentagon officials can easily hold up the burgeoning military bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

It is ironic that as the Lavi crisis came to a boil, the U.S. Marines inaugurated the use of Kfir jets for their training exercises in a ceremony held yesterday in Yuma, Arizona.

Overall, Israeli sales of goods and services to the Pentagon have skyrocketed from \$9 million in 1983 to \$205 million in 1986. There are pending contracts for Israeli military equipment that are estimated in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Scientific exchange is deemed vital for the research capacities of both countries. If the exchange were halted, this would impair Israel's naval programmes, its anti-aircraft development, as well as adversely affect scientific research.

The Arrow ATBM — an anti-tactical ballistic missile that is planned to defend Israel against potential Syrian missile attacks — is at an impasse and is an illustration of the silent ripples caused by the Lavi. Sources familiar with the case say that the U.S. indicated that it would pay for the research and development of the Arrow, costing between \$150-\$200 million. Yet the project is at a standstill. There is no formal linkage with the Lavi, but there is "no political will to move forward" until the Lavi is resolved. And there may be many more cases like the Arrow.

## LIVING WITH THE HEAT WAVE

Joel Rebibio

THE MOUNTAIN of hot air that is suspended over Israel — the weatherman calls it a barometric ridge — is making us more irritable, less efficient, more likely to snarl at our children, and more likely to get into a serious car accident.

But, in spite of the reports that two tourists died this week of dehydration, Israeli heat waves are rarely fatal, in part because Israelis have learnt to adapt to heat.

"In Eilat, 40 degrees is considered cool, but people have adapted to that environment," says duty weatherman Uri Badtz. "People use air conditioners and stay out of the sun."

Israeli industry is also trying to adapt to the heat, and for good reason — experts say that the Gross National Product drops by 1.5 per cent during the summer months.

"Studies have shown that as temperatures rise people lose some of their capacity to produce," says Israel Meidan, former director-general of the Israel Institute of Productivity and now a private consultant.

Using the term "effective temperature," which he defines as a composite of heat, humidity and wind velocity, Meidan offers the following general guideline:

At an effective temperature of 25, fatigue sets in and we begin to become less efficient; at around 28, output is reduced by 15 per cent; at 32, we produce 50 per cent less, and at 37-38, we can hardly function.

Last Friday, for instance, when temperatures in Tel Aviv reached 32, with humidity of 74, the effective temperature ranged from 28-30. In Jerusalem, even though temperatures were two degrees higher, the effective temperature was slightly lower because of the significantly lower humidity.

But effective temperature varied from workplace to workplace depending on ventilation and work conditions. People who work in poorly insulated, unshaded buildings with no fans and inadequate ventilation endured far higher effective temperatures. (Workers who handle toxic substances such as paint or glue in hot, unventilated areas face possible brain damage.)

Farm workers in the Jordan Valley dodge the heat by working between 4 and 10 a.m., and many large companies shut down for a two-week, compulsory vacation during August.

Work that involves significant intellectual activity suffers a qualitative decline, and consequently "practically all science-based industry is air-conditioned," says Meidan. In fact, most industry is gradually moving towards installing air-conditioners because the cost is justified by increased productivity.

The Electricity Corporation confirms that consumption of electricity is increasing as more and more people begin to see air-conditioning as a necessity. "People are beginning to realize that we live in a hot part of the world where air-conditioning is not a luxury," says the corporation's Rafi Ben-Sira.

But those of us with old-fashioned views about air-conditioning, tend to be a bit edgy these days. "Increased body temperature makes people more irritable," explains Dr. Eli Richter, of the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Public Health and Community Medicine's Unit for Occupational and Environmental Medicine. "We sleep differently — stretching out on the couch for afternoon naps — and sleep less at night."

It is most likely that irritability contributes to car accidents, says Richter. "We did a study for the IDF and found to our surprise that there were fewer road accidents on hotter days, probably because there were fewer people out on the road, but the ones that occurred tended to be more severe."

"Performance deteriorates in cars because the greenhouse effect raises the temperature for drivers," Richter would like to see many more air-conditioned city buses on the road as well as thatched huts alongside the road that would give drivers a chance to douse themselves with cool water. He would also like to see the maximum speed reduced to 80 kilometres per hour during heat waves.

A television advertisement that calls on drivers to eat and drink is wrong, he says, because eating makes people drowsy.



(Israel Sun)

It is important to drink a lot, even when you are not thirsty ("thirst is a late sign of dehydration") and it is "absolutely necessary" to wear a wide-brimmed hat to cut down on the glare and prevent sun stroke.

Babies, the elderly and people with heart conditions are the most vulnerable during heat waves. "The heart has to work much harder to deliver blood to the vessels beneath the skin to cool off the body," Richter explains. "Infants have a very high ratio of body surface to volume."

(Heat waves in Greece cause fatalities because the temperatures are higher and because the most vulnerable population — infants, the aged and heart patients — are in hospitals that lack air-conditioning, Richter says.)

Infants and children in some cases pay dearly for the relentless heat and humidity. According to Tsafi Bahet of the Association for Child Protection, there are more reports of child abuse during heat waves.

Children are home the whole day and their parents are more irritable because of the heat, she says.

Young mothers cannot always shift their work load to a cooler part of the day, or take a vacation in August, but many postpone house-

cleaning and cooking until later in the night.

"The problem is that it is too hot to send the kids out to play, but it is also hot inside and you don't have the strength to entertain them all day long," says one mother of five. "The kids are also irritable because of the heat and there is more fighting and teasing."

Supermothers (or fathers) who find the energy to arrange outings must be extremely careful about leaving children in the car. According to Jerusalem pediatrician Ya'acov Shapiro, when it is 36 degrees outside, a car with its windows closed heats up to 65 degrees in only 15 minutes; it heats up to 41 degrees with half-open windows.

Pediatricians are seeing many children suffering from heat exhaustion. Energetic children who insist on running around as usual, even in the midday sun, tend to get headaches, dizziness, nausea and diarrhea. They must also drink a lot and wear wide-brimmed hats.

The weatherman isn't sure when the barometric ridge will move eastward and become someone else's problem, but, says meteorologist Badtz, the most important thing to remember is that heat waves come and go, but summers in Israel are always hot.

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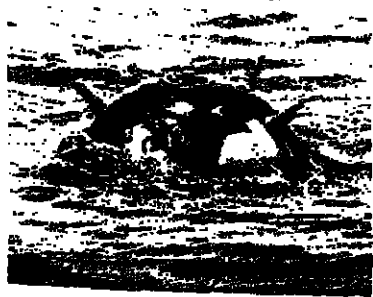
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A by-product of the Gulf War is the increased U.S. and USSR military presence in the region. Strategic experts analyse the battle between the powers.

Jonathan Karp reports.

# The gulf between the superpowers

THE DRAMA in the Persian Gulf is undoubtedly highlighted by the presence of the United States and the Soviet Union, both of which might be seen as vying for the title of "Protector of the Gulf."

The need for such a guardian of free shipping, read oil, from the Gulf's Arab states arose out of the Iran-Iraq conflict's "tanker war." Ironically, Iraq initiated that phase of the Gulf War in 1984 and has pursued it more vigorously than its non-Arab foe.

According to Dr. Dore Gold, head of the U.S. Foreign and Defense Policy Project, at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, Kuwait, along with the other five members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), formed in 1981, declared itself neutral in the war and initially sought to create a superpower-less Gulf.

In fact, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia took a pro-Iraqi stance, providing aid and ports for Iraq-bound cargo, and even marketing Iraqi oil. Saudi Arabia meanwhile endeavored to maintain its links with Iran by following what Gold calls the "understandable policy of a militarily weak state—appeasement."

In Gold's view, Kuwait reached a political crossroad last year as Iran made significant, threatening ground gains against Iraq. In December, Kuwait approached the U.S. about reflagging, only to get a chilly response. In March, the Reagan administration reconsidered the matter after the Soviets agreed to

lease three tankers from the Kuwaitis.

"A lot of people in America think the Kuwaitis counsed America, because by turning to the Soviets they left America no choice," Gold says. "But I think the Kuwaitis turned to the Soviets so that they could then turn to the U.S."

The move to involve both superpowers in the Gulf's naval conflict, Gold believes, essentially led to what Kuwait really wanted: American protection of its ships. The U.S. has agreed to reflag half of Kuwait's 22-strong tanker fleet, while the Soviets are escorting just three commercial vessels.

And though the strategy has given the Soviets their first steady naval presence in the Gulf, it has served to intensify the American presence, which was established in 1949.

ON THE OTHER hand, while the Kuwaiti and Saudi intention was to secure superpower protection, they have also sought to keep the military at arm's length, which could have adverse consequences for the superpowers' military effectiveness. U.S. frustration was obvious when Saudis refused to lend their own minesweepers and announced that they would not allow American minesweeping helicopters to use land bases.

"For American policy-makers, it's exasperating," observes Joseph Alpher, deputy head of the Jaffee Centre. "Just as the U.S. was saying, 'Well, we've done the reflagging and the Saudis are beginning to

soften up and talk about giving us basing rights,' they bring in the Sea Stallion helicopters, and the Saudis again say 'no'."

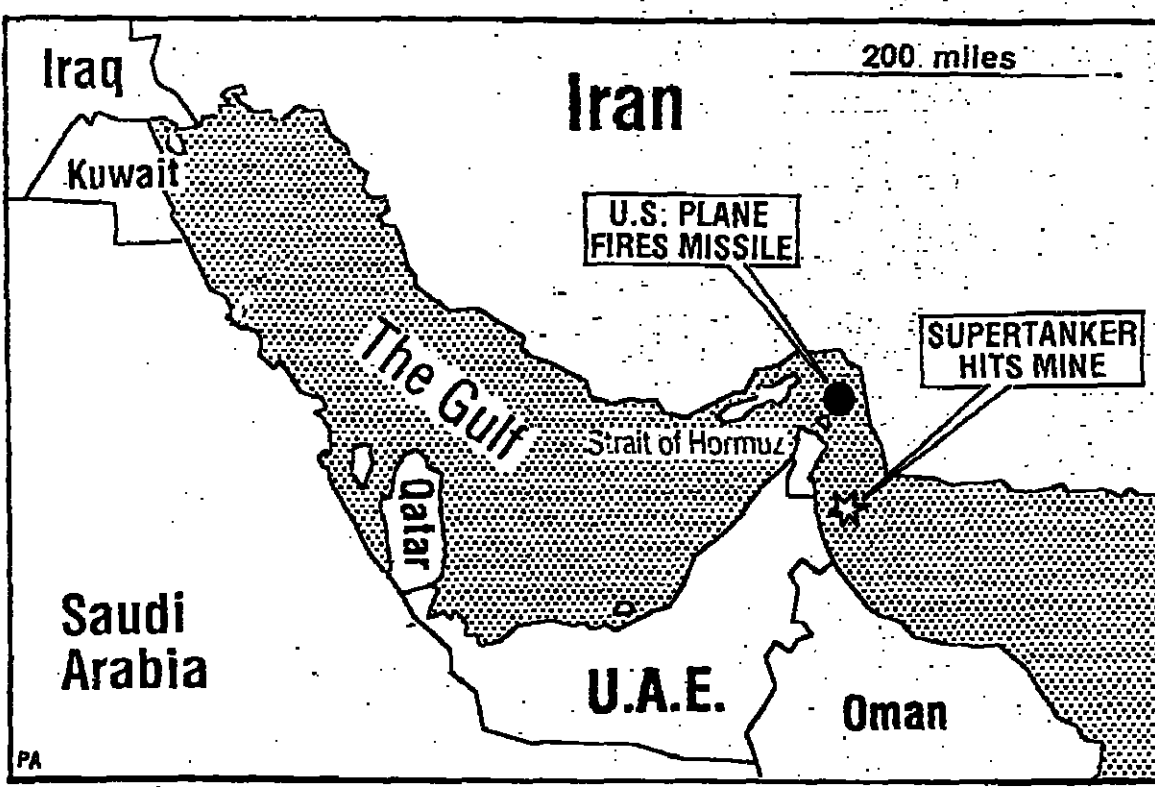
Gaining access to land facilities in the region, much less bases of their own, has been a difficult and complicated process for the U.S. President Jimmy Carter succeeded in 1979-80 in gaining access to facilities in Kenya, Somalia and Oman, but as Gold points out, the U.S. has to receive the countries' permission each time it wants to use them.

Gold attributes the Saudis' decision on the Sea Stallions to the GCC's precarious policy of non-alignment. Though they seem to favour the U.S. Navy, the Gulf states must avoid appearing to be a Middle Eastern NATO.

Of course, the other nominal balancing act Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are playing is between the two warring countries themselves, and experts agree that U.S. land access on the southern side of the Gulf would be extremely troubling to Iran.

THOUGH THE U.S. has sailed the Gulf waters regularly for nearly 40 years, the region became a vital strategic priority in the '70s.

The Rapid Deployment Force, which President Carter devised to "meet the Soviet threat" anywhere in the world became inextricably linked to the Middle East after the fall of the Shah and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. (Since 1983, the RDF has been unified under the Central Command, Centcom.)



The U.S. naval build-up in the Persian Gulf in the early 1980s was designed to establish U.S. dominance in the region and deter a Soviet land invasion of Iran.

For the past three and a half weeks, however, U.S. and Soviet warships have cruised the same shipping lanes for the same client.

"The American military presence today has been turned on its head," says Alpher. "Rather than confronting the Soviets, the U.S. is 'collaborating with them against Iran.'"

Gold counters that common short-term interest should not obscure the superpowers' own strategic objectives. He invokes the analogy of two boxers "who are both putting their arms around one another in exhaustion. They're still boxers," he says, "there's still a competition, and that should not be forgotten."

Both the U.S. and the Soviet Union fear the growth of Khomeini's Islamic fundamentalism and have constructed separate regional security arrangements to oppose it. Maintaining its dominance in the Gulf and guaranteeing the oil supply to its dependent allies are the U.S.'s strategic interests. For the Soviets, says Gold, "the Gulf derives its importance primarily from its importance to the West."

Gold doubts that the two superpowers will launch any sort of joint military operation against Iran, or even cooperate beyond advising each other about activities, so as to avoid a confrontation between them, or one in which either would gain a strategic advantage.

Alpher thinks cooperation might be a viable alternative, but he, too, is sceptical. "Certainly the U.S. won't rush into anything. It would rather get the Soviets out of the Gulf."

THE FACT that the Soviets have established their presence in the Gulf, even if their flotilla consists of just four ships, is already a strategic gain, says Alpher.

Gold adds that there is no chance the U.S. would agree to a reciprocal withdrawal, because this would hand the Soviets, who have sought to convert all oceans along the Asian land mass into "zones of peace," an even bigger foreign policy victory. It would also equate a presence of nearly 40 years with one of just a few months.

The same policy seems to be working in different ways for the two superpowers. One reason is that in accepting the naval escorts, the Soviet Union has less to lose than the U.S. The consequences of hav-

ing to pull out of an area which was previously off-limits are minimal and, ideological considerations aside, Iran probably considers the USSR a greater threat than the U.S.

The U.S. faced a disadvantage from the start, argues Alpher, because it decided to reflag after the Soviets. "It's bad to be perceived as reacting to what the other is doing. Now the U.S. is not going to take any initiatives, because it's worried that they might make things worse," he says.

Compared to the Soviets, the U.S. also faces an image problem concerning its Gulf policy. The media and vocal congressional opposition to President Reagan are largely responsible for this. There is a perception that America is botching it all, while the Soviet Union is succeeding quietly.

Back in May, two months before the U.S. began reflagging, a Soviet-escorted tanker hit a mine. The affair was forgotten the following day, however, because 37 American seamen were killed when an Iraqi fighter attacked the frigate USS Stark.

Then, two days after its highly-publicized entrance into the Gulf, the U.S.-led Bridgeton was damaged by a mine. A further embar-

assment followed when it was revealed that despite knowing that portions of the Gulf were mined, the U.S. had not brought any minesweepers. The closest were docked safely in port in the U.S., a month's journey away.

Three of the Soviets' four warships, it should be noted, were minesweepers.

SINCE THE MECCA riots, Iran has increased its threats against the U.S., and as more ships steam towards the area of conflict, with little likelihood that any already there will leave, the question arises as to how the situation can be defused.

"Kuwait has been very successful in carrying out its policy, but you reach a certain point and you don't know where it's going to go," says Alpher. "The U.S. in many ways has placed itself in a position for which its own policies don't have answers."

Alpher and Gold agree that Kuwait, or its offshore possessions, may prove to be Iran's targets for small-scale attacks or probes. How will the U.S. respond without getting swept into the Iran-Iraq conflict?

Though the Iranians have reportedly illuminated an American ship with one of their Silkworm missiles (which means locking onto it as a target but holding off firing), most observers believe that Iran will continue to use guerrilla tactics or terrorism. "The Iranians can play in the grey area," observes Gold. "That's their best tactic."

Alpher stresses that the U.S. may be underestimating Iran's ability to make trouble for its sophisticated fleet. Gold, on the other hand, worries that Iran may misread the power of U.S. congressional and public opposition to the reflagging as policy.

"I think they are making a big mistake if they do that," says Gold. "The Gulf is one of the areas in which the U.S. would be willing to spill blood to push through its interests."

One thing that Iran may not be overlooking as it considers its policy is that its shipping, too, enjoys indirect protection while the superpowers patrol.

This may be the time to renew diplomatic efforts to win Iran's support for a UN-sponsored cease-fire. There is a month's grace period before the USS Missouri and its escort ships arrive.

David Horowitz/London

## The British about-turn

LESS THAN a fortnight after rejecting a U.S. request that it send minesweepers to the Persian Gulf, Britain this week changed its mind. Why?

According to Defence Secretary George Younger, the about-turn was caused by the discovery of mines in what were previously regarded as "safe" waters, such as the Gulf of Oman. The Royal Navy's Armilla patrol, which has been accompanying British ships through Gulf waters for seven relatively untroubled years, is no longer able to function safely, Younger said. Minesweepers were a "must" if the patrol were to continue its operations.

The Labour opposition is not convinced. Nor is Iran.

Labour foreign affairs spokesman Donald Anderson has accused the government of bowing to American pressure. "Allowing Britain to be drawn deeper into the conflict, when we should be trying to cool it."

The presence of the British minesweepers can only raise tension in the Gulf, he added.

The four Hunt class minesweepers dispatched to the Gulf this week cost around \$50 million each, and are among the most sophisticated such vessels available. They can detect mines with high-definition sonar equipment and explode them with remote controlled underwater craft.

Yet there is some debate as to how effective the Hunt vessels will be in the vast waters of the Gulf. Experts believe that the Iranians are quite capable of hiding mines on the sea-

bed, where they would be undetectable, and it is certainly feasible for new mines to be set immediately after minesweepers have cleared the area.

These considerations have not gone unnoticed in Britain, where the response has been to urge other countries to send their minesweepers to the region as well. The more boats on patrol, the better, according to Younger.

France has apparently reached the same conclusion: it is sending two minesweepers with two support ships to join its aircraft carrier group on the way to the Gulf.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger's dream of an international fleet of minesweepers is fast becoming a reality.

Although the British minesweepers are high-speed ships, it will still take them at least four weeks to reach the Gulf region. That type of long sea journey inevitably brings back memories of the Falkland Islands conflict when, having steamed half-way around the world in order to reach the crisis area, the temptation for the fleet to go into battle proved irresistible, and the loss of face that a week return to base would have caused intolerable.

What will Britain do, Anderson demanded this week, if one of its sitting targets in the Gulf is fired on by Iran?

No answer has yet been forthcoming, probably because none has yet been formulated.

David Kretzmer considers the acceptability of evidence obtained by improper means

## When wrong is right

THIS WEEK'S London Sunday Times report on the way Mordchai Vanunu was allegedly captured and brought to Israel to stand trial obviously raises a serious legal question: Assuming that the report is accurate (and we have no way of knowing whether it is or not), will the way Vanunu was brought before the court affect either the jurisdiction of the court to try him, or the admissibility of the evidence the prosecution brings against him?

Under the rules of *sub judice*, we are prevented from discussing this specific question, which, one must assume, will be dealt with by the trial court itself. All we shall do here is explain the general approach of Israel law on two questions: whether the way a person was brought before the court affects the right of the court to try him; and whether the manner in which evidence against an accused was obtained affects the admissibility of that evidence.

The effect of abducting a person in a foreign country in order to bring him to trial in Israel was one of the preliminary questions in the Eichmann case. It will be recalled that Eichmann was captured in Argentina by Israeli agents and subsequently brought to Israel against his will, and without the prior knowledge and consent of the Argentinian government.

The Jerusalem District Court which tried Eichmann rejected the argument that the way he had been captured and brought to Israel should undermine the jurisdiction of an Israeli court to try him. Relying on a long line of local and foreign precedents, it held that, unless a fugitive offender has been extradited under an extradition treaty (in which case the terms of the extradition must be respected), the court will not investi-

gate the circumstances in which he was detained and brought to the area of jurisdiction.

However, while this was the main ground for its decision on this question, the court also added other grounds which will not necessarily be relevant in other cases. Thus, *inter alia*, it held that any offence that had been committed by the Israeli agents involved a breach of Argentinian sovereignty. But since Argentina and Israel had issued a joint communiqué before the charge was laid against Eichmann, Argentina had condoned the violation of its sovereignty and waived its claims. Furthermore, as a wanted war criminal, Eichmann had never been granted asylum in Argentina, but had entered that country illegally under an assumed identity. He could not force Argentina to grant him asylum.

THE QUESTION in the Eichmann case related to the jurisdiction of the court to try an accused brought into the area of jurisdiction by an act which is illegal under international law and the law of another country. It seems that the approach of other legal systems on this question is the same as that adopted by the Eichmann court.

However, on the similar, but by no means identical, question of the admissibility of evidence obtained by illegal means, divergent approaches are adopted by different legal systems. Furthermore, on this question there have been interesting developments in Israel law since the Eichmann case.

The attitude of both the English and the Israeli courts is that the major concern in deciding on the admissibility of evidence is the "reliability" of that evidence. As long as the manner of obtaining the evidence does not affect its reliability (as it does in the case of a confession extracted by force), evidence is admissible even if it was obtained by illegal means.

The opposing view, sometimes called the "fruits of the poisoned tree theory," holds that in order to deter law-enforcement authorities from employing illegal tactics, evidence obtained by such tactics must be excluded, even if there is no reason to doubt its reliability. This view, adopted by the U.S. Supreme Court, is known as the exclusionary rule (now in the process of being eroded by that court).

The Israel Supreme Court has time and again rejected attempts to import the exclusionary rule into Israel jurisprudence. It has described the Israel rule as follows:

"It is an accepted and well-established rule of the Israel legal system that evidence, which is of itself reliable and proper, but which was obtained by illegitimate and illegal means, is admissible, and that a court has no discretion to reject it."

ALTHOUGH THE Supreme Court has refused to adopt the exclusionary rule, the Knesset has enacted a version of it in two statutes. The Secret Monitoring Law, 1979,

which outlaws wire-tapping and other means of secret monitoring (unless authorized in specified exceptional circumstances); states: "Nothing recorded by way of secret monitoring in contravention of the provisions of this law, shall be admissible in court."

The Protection of Privacy Law, 1981, which defines a number of acts regarded as a breach of an individual's right to privacy, provides:

"Material obtained by an invasion of privacy shall be inadmissible as evidence in court without the consent of the injured party, save where a court allows its use for reasons that shall be recorded, or where the perpetrator who is also a party to the proceedings, has a defence or exemption under this law."

Both statutes adopt versions of the exclusionary rule. However, while the version adopted in the Secret Monitoring Law is absolute, the version of the Privacy Law is qualified. Under the latter, the illegally obtained evidence may be admitted, if the court allows its use for reasons which shall be recorded.

From a recent Supreme Court decision, it seems that the main factors to be weighed by a court in deciding whether to admit the evidence are the seriousness of the crime with which the accused is charged and the extent of the invasion of his privacy.

THE PROVISION in the Privacy Law has raised interesting issues in court. In the Vaknin case, a prisoner in a military jail was suspected of swallowing a dangerous drug. He was forced to drink salt-water and vomited the drug, which was then produced as evidence against him. He argued that this evidence should have been excluded, as it had been obtained by a breach of his privacy.

Breach of privacy is defined in the law as, *inter alia*, "the detection or keeping watch over a person's movements in a manner that may annoy him or by any other form of harassment."

The judges could not agree whether forcing the defendant to drink salt-water could be regarded as an "other form of harassment." The majority decided that it could, and therefore sent the case back to the military court to decide whether to use its special discretion to allow this evidence.

The dissenting justice accepted that the forced drinking had been an illegal assault on the defendant, but held that this did not make the evidence inadmissible, as it could not be regarded as "harassment" under the Privacy Law.

A second case, the Kortam case, also involved swallowing of a large quantity of drugs. However, in this case, the doctors in the hospital to which the accused had been taken by the police were convinced that there was serious and immediate danger to his life unless he was operated on to extract the drug. The problem was that Kortam was adamant in his objection to the operation.

After receiving the approval of a magistrate, the doctors operated and removed two packets of heroin, which were produced as the main evidence in Kortam's trial for illegal possession of drugs.

Relying on the Vaknin decision, he argued that, as the operation had been carried out without his consent, it was both assault and an invasion of his privacy, and that the evidence obtained by the operation should therefore be excluded.

This argument was rejected. The Supreme Court unanimously held that in the circumstances, as the aim of the operation was to save the life of the accused, and not to obtain the evidence, the operation was neither an illegal assault nor "other harassment" under the Privacy Law.

IN ORDER to complete the picture, one further point must be mentioned. As we have already said, factors which affect the reliability of evidence are relevant in determining its admissibility. Thus, an out-of-court confession may not be admitted unless it is proved that it was made of the accused's free will.

The concern here is not to deter the use of force, but rather that the reliability of a confession extracted by coercive means is suspect.

Even if the manner of apprehending an accused and bringing him to justice neither denies the jurisdiction of the court nor makes the evidence inadmissible on breach of privacy grounds, he may nevertheless argue that the circumstances of his apprehension negated his free will, thereby making his out-of-court confessions inadmissible on the grounds of unreliability.

The decision of a court on this issue will have to be based largely on an assessment of the effect of the apprehension on the accused's free will in the specific circumstances of the case.

Professor Kretzmer teaches constitutional law at the Hebrew University.

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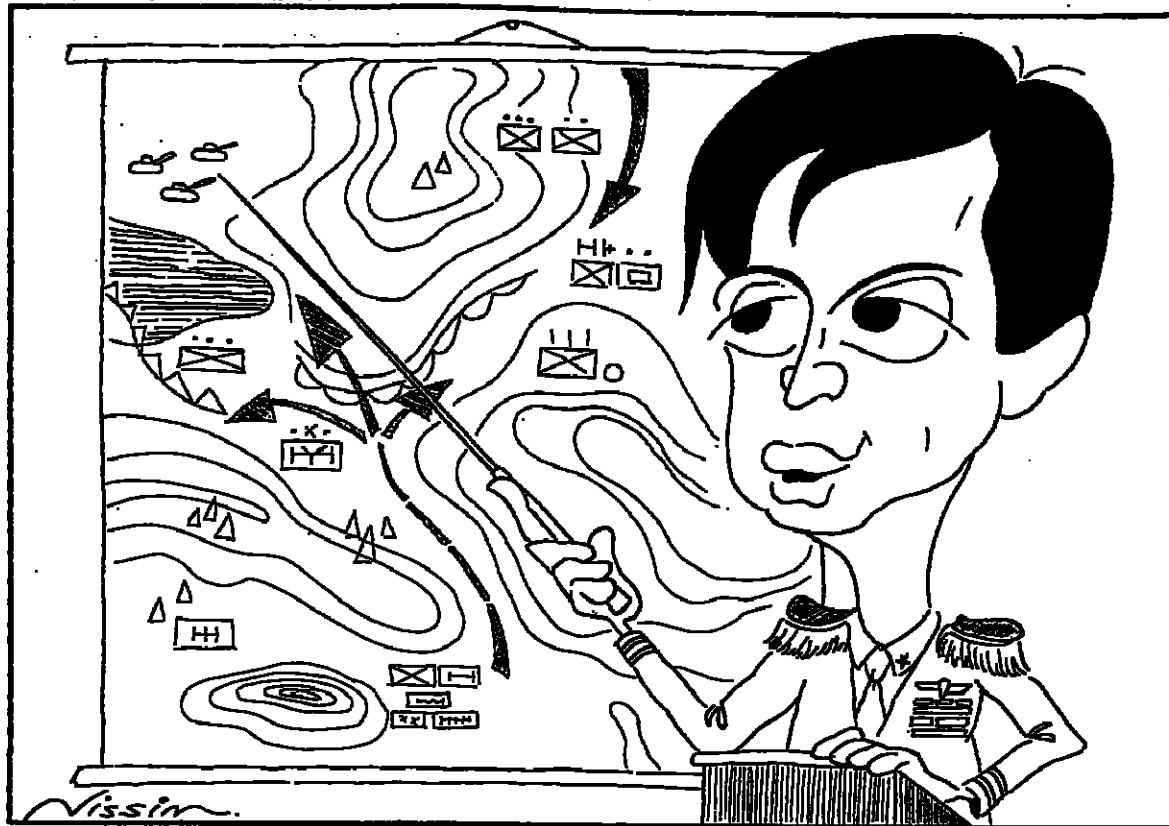


# How to ensure more security for less money

A Knesset subcommittee under Dan

Meridor has some innovative ideas.

Asher Wallfish reports.



THE GOVERNMENT, the Ministry of Defence and the Israel Defence Forces are charged with ensuring this country's security. But do they always know what they are doing? Or are they preparing for some possible future war with the tactics of the last?

First-time Likud MK Dan Meridor is far from sure. Nor is the subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee which he chairs, sure either.

How much security can Israel afford to pay for, while preparing against predictable and unpredictable risks? Meridor and his subcommittee have worked out what they believe to be an improved formula of "more security for less money," which they have submitted in a 32-page report based on some 50 sessions with the top political, military, economic and academic experts involved in the defence realm, today and in the recent past.

Their report on "Israel's security concept and its implementation" represents a revolution for the Knesset, and a constructive challenge to the government, the Defence Ministry and the IDF, which ignored Meridor when he first suggested they take a comprehensive look at the way the executive branch sees its future security planning.

Meridor's personal military experience is based on his term as an officer in the Armoured Corps, but even more on his service as cabinet secretary under former premier Menachem Begin and Premier Yitzhak Shamir, with both of whom he was, and still is, as intimate as their shadows.

Nothing that reached Begin and Shamir concerning security in all its facets was hidden from Meridor. Because of his youth, his down-to-earthness, and his sabra understanding of the way his peers think and operate in the army and the secret

services, he may well have had a clear edge over his superiors in the Prime Minister's Office.

He told this reporter: "Our leaders never drew an integrated picture, in place and in time, of where Israel is going security-wise, even though it devoted between 20 and 30 per cent of its GNP to defence. Security experts more influence on more aspects of society and the economy than anything else. It constitutes the largest organization; it consumes more resources; it combines more disciplines.

"The government and the defence establishment would ask the Knesset for money, and money was allocated. But did anyone ever ask how much money Israel could afford? Even though security is the primary condition for our existence, our national survival depends on the economy, too. Our Arab enemies are indifferent as to whether Israel

collapses economically, or fails in battle."

Meridor recalls that when the government cut the defence budget in 1982 and 1983, the IDF and the Defence Ministry managed to find a way to recoup the cuts by a back door, or by some book-keeping manipulation.

ALTHOUGH UNVERSED in technology, being a lawyer by profession, Meridor feels that the IDF is not laying enough stress on the possible applications of technology to security.

He cannot forget that the Agranat Commission of Inquiry into the Yom Kippur War affair blamed the Knesset, among others, for its lack of vigilance and its reluctance to keep the executive branch on its toes where security was concerned.

After the government rejected his idea of creating a joint panel with the IDF to shape long-term security programmes, Meridor resolved that

the Knesset had to grasp the nettle, whether the cabinet and the defence establishment liked it or not. The Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee chairman, Abba Eban, sponsored the project enthusiastically.

Meridor called in experts to testify on every imaginable related discipline. He asked them to analyse how the government, the Defence Ministry and the IDF thought and worked to ensure military preparedness. He also asked them to define current and future security challenges, and the best way to build the military might which could meet those challenges with maximum effectiveness at minimum cost.

He totally rejects suggestions that his report proposes reducing the size of the standing army.

He said in an earlier interview that Israel needs a standing army that can withstand a surprise attack, and ensure the mobilization of reserves is not disrupted meanwhile. This

standing army should be evaluated not only according to its size, but according to its weapons, combat doctrine and performance.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE, which comprised seven MKs in addition to Meridor, from the Likud, the Alignment, Mapam and the Citizens Rights Movement, submitted its report to Shamir and his top cabinet colleagues, and to the chief of general staff, Rav-Aluf Dan Shomron. Its sessions stretched over 13 months.

The subcommittee, whose recommendations were unanimous, and which neither discussed nor decided along party lines, did not propose establishing a national security council. Instead, it proposed that the government create a professional security headquarters, to project the battlefield 10 and 15 years from now, ascertain what the defence establishment proposes to prepare for that contingency, and suggest alternatives of its own to the inner cabinets.

The subcommittee recommends that options should be matched against the cost and the manpower requirements, and translated into a multi-annual programme.

Meridor told *The Post*: "It is out of the question for defence budgets to be proposed from year to year, or for defence planning to be laid down in that time-frame either. It is also out of the question for the present share of defence in the GNP to be increased."

"We must avoid the principle of buying Israeli-made weaponry whatever it costs. Whenever we can buy weaponry abroad at low cost and without too much hassle, we should do so. We should stress Israeli-made arms solely where a qualitative edge can be proven."

"As for sophisticated weapons systems and modern technological applications to defence readiness, we have to develop innovations with which we can create asymmetry in our favour, to outweigh the manpower asymmetry which Arab states take advantage of."

"So when we plan for future victories on the battlefield, we must weigh not only the outcome, but also

the price in every sense," he said meaningfully.

Meridor recalls that the IDF raised its collective eyebrows when it first heard of the subcommittee's project. "Later, the IDF warmed up, and I believe there is a prospect of its wanting to implement some of our ideas."

He said the present Middle East picture indicated that the time was ripe for the sort of security analysis his subcommittee drew up.

"While we can never be sure that some unforeseen escalation will not plunge us into war, we felt that a window of strategic opportunity has opened up for us at a time when we are at peace with Egypt, and enjoy relations of a peaceful nature with Jordan. Syria is isolated within the Arab world and Iraq is in it up to the neck with Iran in the Persian Gulf," he said.

"Circumstances could not be more propitious for us to risk making far-reaching changes in our defence posture, after due study, while still maintaining a vigilant readiness against surprises."

THE SUBCOMMITTEE did not study the dilemma posed by the Lavi project. Nevertheless, the Mapam and CRM men on the subcommittee submitted addenda of their own about the relationship of the project to the security concept as a whole.

Subcommittee members stressed that they do not consider themselves to be security experts, but merely public figures attempting to shape a comprehensive analysis on the basis of wide-ranging testimony from professionals.

In order to avoid internal arguments along party lines, the subcommittee as it were "froze" the current political situation in the Middle East and did not consider the potentially vast implications for security of a continuation of the peace process. Nor did it contemplate a reversal of the peace process, and the effect this could have.

Such narrowing of the terms of reference in this reporter's opinion could constitute a drawback to the recommendations. But perhaps there was no alternative.

## Henryk M. Broder argues that Austrian Jews are deluding themselves in thinking they are equal citizens

A FEW YEARS ago I was invited by the Jewish Cultural Centre of Vienna to take part in a panel discussion entitled "Heimat." Heimat is one of those German words - like angst, zeitgeist and weltschmerz - which brim with connotations to which no translation can do justice. It is a combination of home and homeland with a healthy dose of schmaltz thrown in for good measure. Heimat was a favourite word in the Third Reich, and in recent years it has re-emerged as a popular topic among intellectuals in the former mainstays of that Reich - Germany and Austria.

The Jewish heimat-lovers of Vienna had apparently decided to jump on the bandwagon. They planned a "balanced" discussion on the subject and invited participants who could be expected to voice a wide range of opinions.

Since I was already living in Israel at the time, I was chosen to represent the "Zionist" viewpoint. It was assumed that I would upbraid my brothers and sisters in the Diaspora for remaining there and call on them to follow me home to the land of our forefathers. The organizers of the event had, of course, no way of knowing that I could hardly care less who lives where - and that I lean more to the "con" than the "pro" side on the question of whether the Jews of the world should immigrate en masse to Israel.

In any case, the president of the Jewish community of Vienna obviously had some misgivings about the course the discussion might take. Before it got under way, he asked me and a couple of the other invited speakers if he could have a few words with us in his office. He was very concerned that the upcoming discussion might not be beneficial for the Jewish community of Vienna.

It was a complicated matter. If, on the one hand, he explained, we were to criticize Austria and claim that Israel was the only true homeland of the Jews, then the local papers might interpret that as evidence of unparitotic sentiment among the Jews. On the other hand, if we were to dissociate ourselves from Israel - as one or two of the speakers were expected to do - that could give rise to doubts about the commitment of the Jews to their "historic" homeland.

All in all, the whole idea of having Jewish in Austria talk about heimat did not strike the president of the local community as a very good one. If the people from the cultural centre had informed him beforehand, he would have talked them out of organizing such an event. But now, he sighed, it was too late to cancel.

He dismissed us with an admonition not to express views which might be considered radical in any particular direction and to keep the community's interests in mind when we spoke. In passing he pointed out to us that his family had lived in Austria for some 400 years and had never had any problems. They had always been treated decently by the Austrians, even as they were boarding the trains for Auschwitz.

THE heimat evening took place a few years before Kurt Waldheim was elected president of Austria. In retrospect, those times seem almost idyllic. Bruno Kreisky was Chancellor, living proof that there were no limits to how far a nice Jewish boy could go in Austria. At that time, anti-Semitism was a non-subject. It was mentioned only by a few oddballs who did not mind being considered members of the lunatic fringe.

Today, after a year of Waldheim, the situation has taken on a different aspect. One need only open the local

newspapers to find out exactly what the Austrian man-in-the-street thinks of his Jewish compatriots: "not much" would be an exaggeration, "less than nothing" somewhat closer to the truth. Television discussions on the Waldheim affair draw audience reactions such as "Let the Jews go, back where they came from!" and "We didn't kill enough of them!"

It is almost tempting to feel sorry for the poor, downtrodden Jews of Austria. "What did they do to deserve this?" one might ask.

For my part, I cannot pretend to feel any great sympathy for my brothers and sisters in Austria. On the contrary, with their unexpected crash landing on the hard ground of Austrian reality, they got exactly what was coming to them. It was their well-earned reward for decades of conformism, running scared and tiptoeing around the truth - decades of opportunism and hypocrisy.

"We have been hit over the head with something we spent 42 years keeping silent about," said Paul Grosz, president of the Jewish Community, in a recent and uncharacteristic attack of clearheadedness. What he failed to explain, however, was why they had held their silence for so long in the first place.

There is nothing in the least surprising about the recent developments in Austria. The Jews of Austria (and of Germany, for that matter) have spent the past 40 years clinging to illusions, in the way a wanderer in the desert pins his hopes on a mirage, only to panic as it begins to disappear before his eyes.

The first and most fundamental

misconception under which our brethren in Vienna laboured was that the return of the Jews to Austria after the war was something the rest of the Austrian population wanted. The Jews believed they would be needed to help in the rebuilding of Austrian democracy. What they did not realize was that even the most ardent anti-fascists in Austria would have been quite happy to keep the country judenrein - another of those uniquely German words.

The second illusion was that anti-Semitism in Austria had been so weakened and discredited that it could never again become a potent or threatening force in Austrian society. Content to be merely tolerated, the Jews of Austria consistently and deliberately chose to ignore facts which had been staring them coldly in the face all along. It is no secret to anyone familiar with European culture that anti-Semitism is part of that culture.

Nowhere is this more the case than in Austria. Anti-Semitism is an essential element of Austrian culture. The fact that for many years anti-Semitism was not a conspicuous feature of Viennese street life was misunderstood by the Jews as a sign that it was on its way to extinction. But anti-Semitism, like all other social phenomena, comes in rising and falling waves. It is no less real simply because it is latent.

In vague, perhaps subconscious, realization of this fact, the Jews of Austria adopted a third false assumption. They believed that if they only behaved themselves and avoided notoriety, that is, if they did not provoke the closet anti-Semites - did not give them an excuse to come out of their closets - then everything would be all right, then nobody would dare to attack the Jews openly.

They behaved with the helplessness of a homeopathic doctor faced with a case of incurable cancer. They were either unwilling or unable to comprehend that anti-Semitism has nothing to do with the numbers or conduct of the Jews themselves.

An anti-Semite draws no distinction between a highly respected uni-

versity professor and an underhanded shyster. Both allow him equal opportunity to express his distaste for Jews in general. The behaviour of the Jews can no more affect the attitudes of an anti-Semite than the squawking of a chicken can convince a cook to stop boiling water for the soup.

FOR YEARS Austria had a Jewish chancellor who lost no opportunity to dissociate himself from his Jewish ancestry and to ridicule Judaism or the Jewish people. He traded kisses with Arafat, held hands with Gaddafi and compared Israel's actions to those of the Nazis. And for all his efforts, is there one passionate anti-Semite less in Austria today?

Confronted with Waldheim's election, the Jews of Austria - supported by representatives of world Jewry ranging from the president of the World Jewish Congress to Yitzhak Shamir - reacted in a way which gives rise to the suspicion that the famed Jewish intelligence is nothing but an anti-Semitic invention, a myth which bears no relation to reality. Without their efforts the whole affair would not have risen above the level of a local farce. Through their efforts, they have achieved only one thing: it is now painfully clear that Waldheim is primarily, if not exclusively, a Jewish problem, not an Austrian one.

"We're not afraid for ourselves," exclaims a prominent member of Vienna's Jewish community. "We're afraid for the future of this country, of our country" - as if the Austrian republic were a publicly owned company and the Jews, as small shareholders, were now called upon to bail it out. For all their protestations of patriotism and their overwhelming concern for the welfare of the Austrian republic, they simply refuse to accept the fact that the majority of their fellow citizens feel themselves more than adequately represented by Waldheim.

The president of the Jewish community of Vienna has called upon interested persons to write letters to prominent personalities requesting their support in confronting Au-

strian anti-Semitism. (Little children write letters to "Mr. God" and Santa Claus.) The goal of the protest letters is to have anti-Semitic slander and attacks on Jews declared criminal offences.

Steps should also be taken to "educate the youth" of the country and to heighten media representatives' awareness of their role in informing public opinion. With equal effectiveness, one could just as well advocate a parliamentary resolution against bad weather and call upon the government to distribute free umbrellas to pedestrians who get caught in the rain.

There have already been enough "steps" taken in Austria to "inform" the public, enough articles in the newspapers and enough films on television. "The contribution of the Jews to European civilization" has been covered. The amazing number of Jewish writers, inventors, movie stars and Nobel Prize winners is known.

Bringing Austrians to court for telling anti-Semitic jokes will not

solve the "Jewish problem." The publication of recipes for gefilte fish in the local papers will not make the Jews more beloved. Showing Barbara Streisand films on television and reading Philip Roth in the schools will not wipe out centuries of prejudice.

The Jews are not now, nor have they ever been, equal citizens in Austria. No "true Austrian" has any need to assert that Austria is "his country." It is. And no patriotic declarations of concern for the future of Austrian democracy will have any effect on the status of the Jews as an unwanted minority. They should probably consider themselves lucky to be allowed to declare anything.

"My life is too precious for me to waste it standing under an apple tree begging for pears," wrote the satirist Kurt Tucholsky in 1935. The Jews of Austria are different. Fifty years later, they have not yet abandoned the hope that things will turn out the way they think they ought.

The writer is the Jerusalem correspondent for several German-language newspapers.

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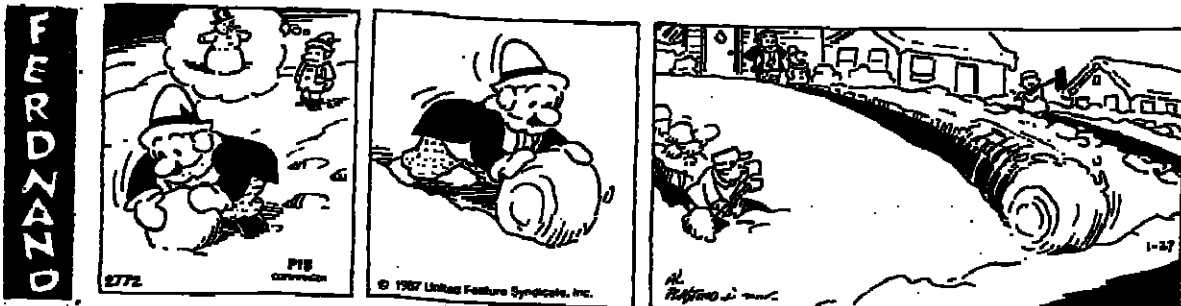
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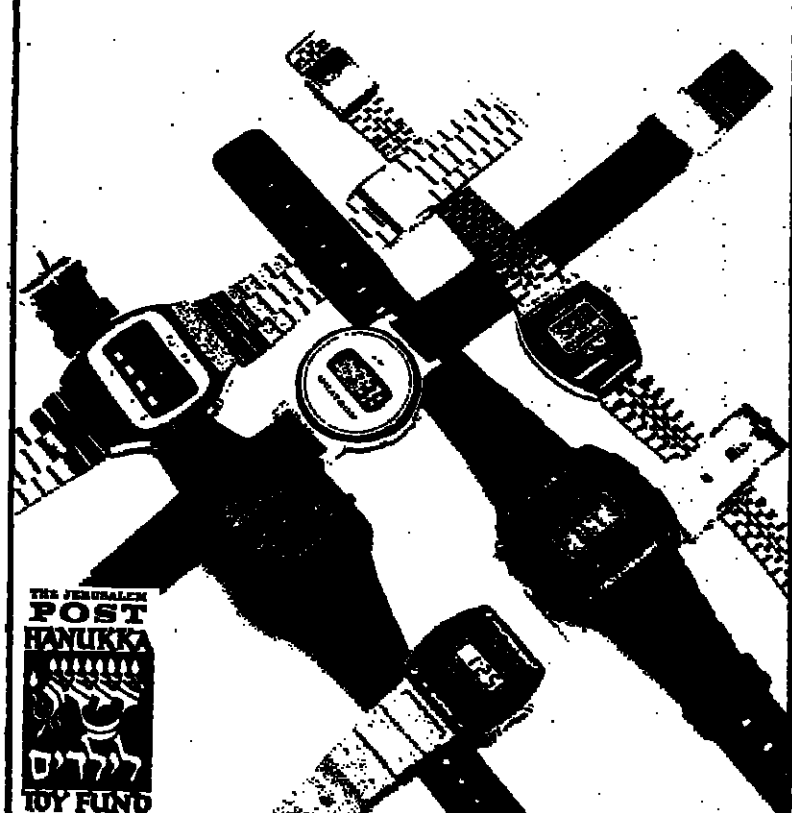
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Shlomo Maoz says supporters of the Lavi assume the U.S. will foot the bill despite clear signs to the contrary

## ON A WING AND A PRAYER

IN THE next few days, the sharp debate over the future of the Lavi fighter, and some argue over the future of the Israeli economy, will reach a new climax. This debate is taking place after a delay of several years, during which \$2.6 billion have been spent on the project while Israel Aircraft Industries has blurred the policymakers' judgment with stories of "Little Red Riding Hood" and false figures.

The main battle is going to be between two camps which are not divided according to party affiliation. In favour of the fighter project are the two leaders of the main parties: Yitzhak Shamir (due to pride) and Shimon Peres (a lover of technology - though who seems to be now reluctantly retreating). All the politicians backing Shamir are deeply concerned about Israel's security. They want Israel to be as independent as possible by meeting its arms needs from local sources.

In the other camp, are politicians who favour scrapping the Lavi project. Not surprisingly, they are also concerned with the country's defence capabilities. This camp includes Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, who thinks that the project will weaken the Israeli economy, and by so doing, Israel's security. It also includes Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the heads of the army, who prefer to see more money poured into other defence projects rather than having the government put all its eggs in one basket.

Moreover, operatively some of them don't believe that the IDF will get the fighters on time - by the beginning of the 1990s - as they were promised some years ago. The IDF is concerned that when it will need the aircraft, they will not be available. Eventually, because it can't take the risk, it will have no choice but to buy the American-made F-16.

Thus, we have two honoured



Two Lavi prototypes fly low over the coast.

groups which are deeply concerned with our future in Eretz Yisrael, but in different ways. Which group is more realistic? The Shamir-Peres group (even though Peres wouldn't like to be in the same boat with Shamir) appears more visionary, yet more loony. The figures are definitely against them. Shamir can build 10 more settlements in Samaria with the money saved on each plane, if he chooses the F-16, rather than the Lavi.

Peres can make a similar calculation. In case the project is cancelled this summer, it will be much easier for Peres and the Labour movement to milk the country every time that one of their enterprises is in trouble. Don't they know these facts? They know. But they also know, and maybe better than we do, that one project is not financed at the expense of another in our unique economy - contrary to what is written in textbooks. The two leaders have

justifiably learned from their own experience that Israel has the power - or better, the "schmorrer" ability - of juggling two and more major projects simultaneously: defence, higher standards of living and at the same time preserving the old anachronistic structure of the economy.

It is true that sometimes we have had minor problems, such as being on the edge of economic collapse and reaching 1,000 per cent inflation, as happened for some years after the Likud came to power in mid 1977. But why worry. Eventually the Americans came to our rescue, organized an economic plan for us, poured in more aid, thus helping us to stabilize the economy painlessly.

After this experience why should the pro-Lavi group worry? Who paid for the Merkava tank? Who paid for air bases in the Negev after the Sinai withdrawal? Who has paid for development of the Lavi until now? The Americans, of course.

THE scrap-the-Lavi group is now headed by Rabin who couldn't make up his mind on the issue for some years. He vacillated for some time until reaching a point where he didn't believe the Lavi's figures any more. Rabin was pushed toward his final decision some months ago by the Americans who clearly told him that they would like the project terminated. Again, like all our deals with the Americans, Rabin was promised compensation in the form of joint military ventures, and more money for our defence industry, mostly financed by America.

Thus, we can argue that Rabin is more realistic than his colleagues who favour the Lavi. He knows that we are subordinate to the Americans and must reluctantly follow their lead; whether it is selling arms to

Iran - or for that matter to Latin America - the reassessment of American policy by Kissinger which eventually forced Israel to agree to the interim agreement of 1975, or the termination of the siege on the Egyptian Third army during the Yom Kippur War.

Anyway, the Lavi is not a purely Israeli project since more than 50 per cent of the parts are made by American subcontractors and the whole project is paid for by the U.S. Therefore, Israel cannot claim to be independent.

From the very beginning, it was an American project with an American engine, American wings and, most important, American financing, with some Israeli know-how and highly qualified workers. We couldn't come up with the money to spend on such a project for our defence. After all, we have somebody else to take care of it.

We have to spend our money correcting our own mistakes - and we have made a lot of them. We can't harm the bank shareholders, not to mention the groups that have vested interests in the banks. We have to take care of Kupat Holim and Solel Boneh because they are mismanaged; we have to help Elscint, our electronic flagship; in order to keep the land in Jewish hands we have to help the moshavim and kibbutzim; and for the sake of the Holy political balance between the Likud and Labour, we have to help private construction companies. In addition to all this, the government has promised us better housing, improved health services, jobs, fruit and vegetables. Why should we spend our own money on defence and national prestige, when many, in the contemporary young generation, have become used to the Americans paying for our defence.

## Philanthropy and the U.S. taxman

Pinhas Landau

"THE NON-JEWISH world engages in 'planned giving,' while the Jews make fund-raising dinners." This basic fact of how philanthropy is organized in the U.S. explains why Jewish philanthropy, despite its scale, is less efficient in the long-term than non-Jewish, according to Sheldon Adams. What is worse, he adds, is that the tax reform now going into effect has highlighted the importance of planned giving.

Adams is a 56-year-old New Yorker who has spent the last three years as an independent consultant in the field of philanthropic planning. Before that, he was in financial planning where he learnt the linked areas of investments, income tax, capital gains tax, estate and death duties and trust provisions.

He was recently in Israel to meet with charities and institutions, large and small, to spread what he sees as an urgent message - that institutions that don't organize themselves in the next few months to take advantage of the interim tax provisions in force during 1987, will miss the bus, to their lasting disadvantage.

Adams sees it as his personal mission to introduce the concept of planned giving to a primitive and ignorant community of Israeli institutions that live off foreign, primarily American, philanthropy. He can - and does - advise them all, from the biggest to the smallest, but his heart is clearly with the smaller ones, whose problems are much worse - if they only realized.

That is the result of several processes that are at work on both sides of the philanthropic equation, the receivers and the givers. But first, let's define the term "planned giving."

Planned giving is a combination of current and deferred giving. The former refers to donations from current income, while deferred giving involves the use of trusts to endow assets and future income to recognized charities at some later time, usually after the death of the original owner of the assets.

Because the personnel in Jewish philanthropic institutions are not as professional as their gentile counterparts, they have failed to appreciate that the long-term well-being of their institution depends on deferred giving which builds up capital and income for the institution "down the road."

The emphasis has always been on current giving, the assumption being that deferred giving is undesirable because it comes at the expense of current giving. It is this assumption which Adams sees as mistaken and which has such potentially disastrous consequences.

The problem has come to the fore because of the massive reform in the U.S. tax system that began in the current fiscal year and will be finalized in the next one. A basic element of the reform is that income tax and capital gains tax will be aligned, so that the top marginal rate of income tax will fall from 50 per cent in 1986 to 28 per cent in 1988, while long-term capital gains will be taxed at 28 per cent from next year, instead of 20 per cent hitherto.

1987 IS THE Year of transition. For instance, assets on which long-term capital gains have been accumulated, and which are liquidated this year, will attract tax of only 20 per cent, while next year they will be taxed at 28 per cent. Conversely, current income is being taxed at a top rate of 38 per cent this year, before falling to 28 per cent next year. This refers to federal income tax - state and city taxes have to be added.

To recipients of philanthropy these are fateful changes. Put at their simplest, they mean that the effective cost of a \$1000 donation, from the donor's point of view, will rise from \$500 to \$720 - the old 50 per cent tax rate meant that the Internal Revenue Service would have taken \$500, had the income remained taxable and not been donated, while in the future it will take only \$280. Thus the actual donation has risen from a net \$500 to a net \$720.

Is it not the case, though, that the net income of these wealthy individuals who give the donations will rise, and will that not "compensate" them for the higher net cost to themselves of their donations?

Adams admits that the first part is true, but the effect of higher net income is not so directly felt as is the reduction of the taxman's participation in the gift. Americans are used to thinking in terms of what the donation will cost them, net of tax, and here there is an unambiguous rise from \$500 to \$720.

Therefore, there is great fear and trembling among the recipients as to what will happen. The consensus view is that the total amount of donor money will shrink. This process has begun this year and will get worse next year, when the full impact of the reforms are felt.

Within this overall shrinkage, Adams foresees the big recipients losing less, or gaining a market share, at the expense of the small recipients. One reason for this is the abolition of "non-itemized giving." This was a clause that allowed people to claim in their tax returns a

certain amount as charitable donations without providing details of who got how much. For people who gave small donations to small charities, this was useful; the sufferer from its abolition will be precisely those small charities that used to benefit from it.

But beyond this legal point, Adams has identified important administrative and personal factors at work at the Israeli end. His analysis is as follows:

Israel, being a young country, has young institutions. Many of these are headed by charismatic individuals who have built up their own personal following, and they are thus able to function simultaneously as educators and fund-raisers.

But, says Adams, they are a dying breed, and will not be replaced. In their wake will come a more bureaucratic, depersonalized link between donor and recipient - but this will demand talented personnel. Small institutions will not be able to hire or keep this calibre of person, nor will their administrative backing be up to the required standard. In short, economies of scale will work against the small and in favour of the big.

The way to counter these trends, according to Adams, is for the whole approach to become more sophisticated, and despite the fact that this will be hardest for the small institutions, if they don't make the effort, many of them will be squeezed out of existence.



Sheldon Adams: charitable institutions need to take into account the new U.S. tax reform. (Studio 22)

This is the line that Adams plugged in his recent visit. For those of his clients who understood the full import of his long-term attitude, he had a more urgent summons: The time to line up long-term income is short - from now until the end of 1987. Institutions that can explain to their supporters how to adopt a planned giving approach will be able to "lock-in" assets and future income, while the donors benefit from tax advantages that will disappear, or be significantly reduced, from January 1, 1988.

TO HELP both donors and recipients maximize their opportunities, Adams has specific schemes. Although they are immensely complex, the incentive to understanding them, in terms of dollars and cents, is sufficient to make the effort worthwhile.

Just to give an idea of what the schemes are about, we will quote the "headlines" of Adams' brochures, without attempting to substantiate the claims made. What may be said, in general, is that the details hold together and justify the close attention of people to whom this issue is relevant.

Thus, "one financial tool can help you" to do six excellent things, namely:

- Save income taxes
- Create retirement income
- Reduce estate taxes and probate costs
- Provide for your children's education
- Keep wealth in the family
- Support worthy causes.

From the recipients' viewpoint, of course, the last point is the most important, but the selling of the scheme is based on its utility to the donor.

Another of Adams' ideas that donors should pay attention to is that of trusts with "multi-beneficiaries," i.e., those that arrange to leave the goodies to several institutions, rather than one. This suits many people who want to give different amounts to various good causes. It requires a certain realism on the part of recipients, who have a natural tendency to want as much as is available, but that is part and parcel of Adams' general approach.

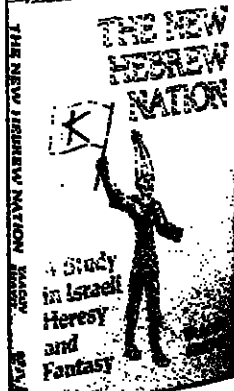
This is to see the giving and receiving of donations as something to be done with as much intellectual input, planning and consideration as any other business or financial undertaking. Only thus will both sides maximize the possibilities that the law allows them, and given the new tax reality in the U.S., it has never been more important.

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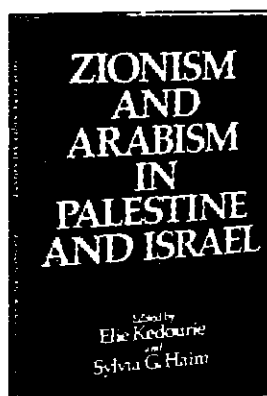
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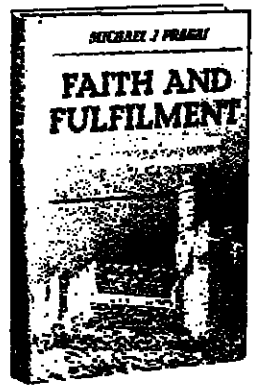
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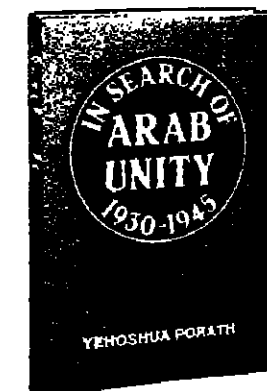
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## MARKET PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

## The lion and the bull

It is impossible at this time not to refer to the Lavi issue. The subject is inextricably bound, this being a market and investments oriented column, only two points fall within this purview.

The vast majority of people have not got the necessary information to make a reasoned judgment by themselves as to whether to stop the project or not. All of us in this category have to form an opinion based primarily on whom we believe more, or which sides' arguments are more persuasive.

But there is still the intangible factor of gut feeling. One aspect of this was put to this writer by a very senior business economist the other day, as follows:

"I don't know about the cost figures thrown around, much less the military assessment as to what we need and whether the F-16 is as good or worse. But one thing puts me off. The idea of risking so much on one project, basically of putting all our eggs in one basket—that has got to be extremely dangerous. If you have a range of medium-sized projects you can be sure that if some fail, others will succeed. Here there is no comeback."

The other point is to do with marketing. How can one go ahead with a manufacturing project, of any size, when there is the near-certainty that the product will have no market? Foreigners won't buy Israeli planes, for well-known reasons, and even our own Air Force is dubious whether it wants the Lavi, if it means forgoing other purchases. In any event doesn't want very many.

These are things that any clot can understand. They are, if you like, "clot's kashes"—the questions raised by simpletons. That doesn't mean they don't deserve an answer, and a convincing one, too.

## Many Happy Returns?

Yesterday was the fifth birthday of what has come to be regarded as the "greatest bull market in history" on Wall Street. Since the slump in the summer of 1982, the Dow Jones Industrial Average hit 776, a low of water has flown down the Hudson and East rivers, and carried that measure up by about 250 per cent.

This has coincided, not surprisingly, with one of the longest periods of economic expansion in American history. You would think that after all that, the outlook for the U.S. economy would be buoyant. But, Wall Street apart, the business papers are full of trepidation, and the words "crisis" and "fundamental problems" appear with alarming frequency, even in the most sober analyses.

The general theme is that the American people have been living beyond their means for years on end, with the rest of the world financing this extravagance. The huge budget and trade deficits are the numerical proof of that state of affairs. The availability of foreign funding, in absence of domestically-generated savings flows, explains not only how this situation carries on, but also how Wall Street keeps going up. But it only explains how, not why.

One reason behind the flood of money is that most of it is Japanese, and given the fundamentals of the Japanese markets, the New York markets seem more than reasonable investment channels. Other rationales are produced on an ad hoc basis, mostly with no conviction behind them, and hence without the power to convince.

But none of this stops the market going up, and new records have been hit on 51 of the 150-old trading days so far this year. Volume is so heavy that the brokerage firms themselves are in danger of seizing up under the burden (in London, where the boom has lasted longer and is more intense, they already have).

The ability of financial markets to generate tremendous profits out of all proportion to the state of the underlying economy is not something alien to Israelis. We saw it in 1980-1982. Hence the projections of the chartists and technical analysts that the Dow will speak somewhere past 3500, before collapsing in a worse crash than 1929, is not something we would dismiss out of hand.

As for the American economy, we don't need Reagan's address to the nation to tell us that it is in bad shape. Shultz's confirmation, in so many words, that the U.S. cannot afford to pay for the Lavi on our behalf, made the point quite clearly for those capable of absorbing it.

## Drill in Kiryat Shmona

KIRYAT SHMONA (Itim). — Katyusha rockets fell while air-raid, ambulance, police and fire-engine sirens wailed here yesterday. Civil guards distributed gas masks to the residents. This northern Galilee town was conducting a civil defence exercise.

Army sources said after the drill that the town's security situation had improved greatly since the last exercise.

## Profit up at Teva, Haifa Chemicals

Post Economic Staff  
Haifa Chemicals Ltd. yesterday reported a sharp jump in profit on the back of stronger sales in the first half, while Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. turned in strong results for the quarter ended June 30.

Haifa Chemicals, which manufactures fertilizers, said net income shot up 82.9 per cent in the first six months of the year, compared with the same time in 1986, to \$6.95 million. Pre-tax earnings showed an even sharper gain, increasing 80.39 per cent to \$12.87m.

The company seemed to gain little from lower tax rates this year, with the government's take remaining steady at about 45 per cent of gross income in both 1986 and 1987.

Haifa Chemicals' brief announcement of its results to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange offered no comment on taxes or other matters relating to its results. The company is controlled by former Israeli Meshulam Riklis and Aryeh Genger, with the state-owned Oil Refinery Ltd. and Delek Fuel Corp. owning the remaining shares.

Sales in the January-June period were up 12.3 per cent to \$59.64m., the great bulk of them going to overseas markets. Exports, up 12.4 per cent from a year ago, came to \$57.08m.

## COMPANY RESULTS

**Haifa Chemicals Ltd.**  
Fertilizer development  
Half  
To June 30 1987 1986  
Revenue \$17.4m. \$12.8m.  
Net income (600,000) (1,27m.)

**Canaan Land & Resort Ltd.**  
Real estate development  
Half  
To June 30 1987 1986  
Net income (NIS 167,000) (438,800)  
Per share (0.73) (2.03)

**Optrotech Ltd.**  
Electronics development  
Half  
To June 30 1987 1986  
Revenue \$17.94m. \$12.44m.  
Net income 1.18m. 203,000  
Per share 0.23 0.4

**Kapal Drive—Yourself Ltd.**  
Auto rentals  
Half  
To June 30 1987 1986  
Net income NIS 228,370 (65,790)  
Per share 0.556 (0.239)  
\* Per 1,000 shares

**Demjanjuk ON TRIAL**  
(Continued from Page One)

'standards' you make a mistake, because both sides believe that 'standards' are true.

With this the long cross-examination of Robertson came to an end. Gill asked her only a few questions in the "re-direct." Robertson told him that she required a dozen or more "standard" signatures, "so that I can see they are consistent."

When Shaked made several objections, Levin told him: "We plan to be very liberal in re-direct, and I suggest you refrain from making objections." But then Levin himself stopped Gill from embarking upon several lines of questioning, which the judge said should have been asked at an earlier stage. Questions in re-direct may only refer to matters brought up during cross-examination.

In his re-cross-examination, Shaked asked Robertson about a Florida case in which she had testified. It concerned an employee who had written graffiti on the wall of a toilet on her employers' premises. She was held responsible after Robertson identified her handwriting, based on samples taken from her job application form.

Having established this, Shaked announced that he had no further questions.

Robertson's long testimony thus came to an end shortly after noon yesterday. Levin thanked her for her efforts. "You were sometimes under pressure; we regret this," he said.

Since the defence had no fresh witness ready, the session ended early. Demjanjuk's Israeli lawyer, Yoram Shefel, told the court that the next witness had not yet arrived from the U.S. There was a discussion on whether a summary of the next witness' testimony would be given to the prosecution in time to allow them to prepare themselves. The witness is psychologist Anita Pritchard of the University of Texas.

Toronto lawyer Paul Chumak yesterday joined Gill and Shefel at the defence table, after his accreditation by the Israel Bar and the Justice Ministry came through.

Justice Minister Avraham Shari yesterday rejected a plea by Mark O'Connor, Demjanjuk's former attorney, that the government pay him \$30,000 in fees, since Demjanjuk's family is unable to do so.

According to Israel Television, O'Connor's request was based on a conversation he had with former Justice Ministry director-general Meir Gabai. Shari said in his reply that the state only pays the fees of attorneys it appoints.

At Teva Pharmaceuticals, net income for the three months ended June 30 was up a sharp 35.5 per cent to NIS 4.48m., or 1.92 agorot a share, but a good part of the rise was due to lower tax rates. The drug maker's pre-tax earnings amounted to NIS 6.5m., up just 10 per cent from a year earlier. The tax bite fell to 30 per cent from 43 per cent in the 1986 period, Teva noted.

Sales, meanwhile, grew 15 per cent to NIS 57.7m.

In calculating the per share profit, Teva noted that W.R. Grace—its partner in TAG Pharmaceuticals Inc., Teva's American marketing company, had exercised its option to purchase a 15 per cent stake in Teva, thus boosting the number of shares outstanding.

Teva also noted that its research and development costs had grown significantly from last year—about 63 per cent—as it stepped up activities aimed at gaining U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval for generic drugs being marketed in the U.S. through TAG Pharmaceuticals.

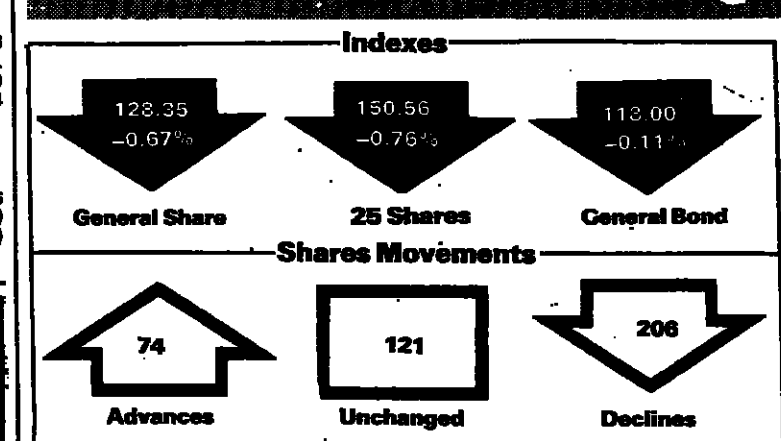
Teva added that its current results did not include sales or income from Promedico, which was sold during the last quarter. Its results, however, were included in its 1986 results.

## Africa Israel Investments Ltd.

Real estate development  
Half  
To June 30 1987 1986  
Revenue NIS 34.4m. 11.4m.  
Net income 8.17m. 740,000

\* To Sept. 30

## Tel Aviv Stock Exchange



| Name   | Price  | Volume | NIS   | % change |
|--|--------|--------|-------|----------|
| <b>Commercial Banks</b>                      |        |        |       |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 21700  | 2983   | -10.0 |          |
| Mazda  | 1715   | 2983   | -10.0 |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 1715   | 2983   | -10.0 |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 1715   | 2983   | -10.0 |          |
| <b>Commercial Banks</b>                      |        |        |       |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 102150 | 1237   | -0.5  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 102150 | 1237   | -0.5  |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 102150 | 1237   | -0.5  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 102150 | 1237   | -0.5  |          |
| <b>Mortgage Banks &amp; Finance</b>          |        |        |       |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 9890   | 138    | -     |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 9890   | 138    | -     |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 9890   | 138    | -     |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 9890   | 138    | -     |          |
| <b>Insurance</b>                             |        |        |       |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 1124   | 482    | +1.0  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 1124   | 482    | +1.0  |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 1124   | 482    | +1.0  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 1124   | 482    | +1.0  |          |
| <b>Trade &amp; Services</b>                  |        |        |       |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 3080   | 50     | +0.3  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 3080   | 50     | +0.3  |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 3080   | 50     | +0.3  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 3080   | 50     | +0.3  |          |
| <b>Real Estate, Building and Agriculture</b> |        |        |       |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 362    | 358    | -4.2  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 362    | 358    | -4.2  |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 362    | 358    | -4.2  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 362    | 358    | -4.2  |          |
| <b>Industrials</b>                           |        |        |       |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 6130   | 69     | -0.5  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 6130   | 69     | -0.5  |          |
| Bank Leumi                                   | 6130   | 69     | -0.5  |          |
| Bank Hapoalim                                | 6130   | 69     | -0.5  |          |

| Name          | Price  | Vol.  | Change | %     |
|---------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| First Interim | 8000   | 2780  | -0.25  | -0.2  |
| Bank Leumi    | 200    | 2000  | +0.25  | +0.2  |
| Bank Hapoalim | 414    | 7916  | -1.2   | -0.2  |
| Bank Leumi    | 10421  | 580   | -0.75  | -0.5  |
| Bank Hapoalim | 1148   | 14300 | +1.0   | +1.0  |
| Bank Leumi    | 258    | 200   | -1.0   | -1.0  |
| Bank Hapoalim | 68194  | 250   | -1.0   | -1.0  |
| Bank Leumi    | 712    | 22000 | -0.25  | -0.2  |
| Bank Hapoalim | 17679  | 200   | -1.0   | -1.0  |
| Bank Leumi    | 48111  | 120   | -1.25  | -0.4  |
| Bank Hapoalim | 14889  | 1280  | -      | -     |
| Bank Leumi    | 2855   | 1880  | -1.00  | -1.0  |
| Bank Hapoalim | 400798 | 48    | -0.75  | -0.2  |
| Bank Leumi    | 11885  | 480   | -1.00  | -1.0  |
| Bank Hapoalim | 59300  | 1.00  | -2.25  | -2.25 |
| Bank Leumi    | 10196  | 480   | -0.75  | -0.2  |
| Bank Hapoalim | 1148   | 4850  | +0.25  | +0.2  |
| Bank Leumi    | 2221   | 7440  | +1.25  | +1.2  |
| Bank Hapoalim | 1319   | 10200 | -0.75  | -0.5  |
| Bank Leumi    | 3157   | 800   | -0.75  | -0.5  |

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## Securitas net soared 83 per cent in year

By PINHAS LANDAU  
Post Economic Staff  
Securitas Ltd., the Israeli underwriting agency for two major foreign insurance firms, yesterday announced an 83 per cent jump in net profit to NIS 1.2 million for the year to March 31.

Gross profit, however, slipped 3 per cent in inflation-adjusted terms, from 1985/6 levels, and totalled NIS 3.2m. It was the reduction in the company's tax burden, from 82 per cent in 1985/86 to 63 per cent in 1986/87, that produced the increase in net profits.

Overall, Securitas's financial statements are a perfect example of how exogenous factors, such as taxation, inflation and devaluation rates, determine the published figures of many Israeli companies, almost irrespective of their business performance.

Securitas is the only agency registered on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, the others all being insurance companies. As an agency, it carries no insurance risk, and its record has been to produce profits both for itself and the two foreign giants it represents.

These are Fireman's Fund, of the U.S., which Securitas was represented in Israel since 1950, and the British Cornhill firm, with which the company became associated in 1977.

According to Securitas's founder and chairman, Dr. Ya'akov Haron, almost all the company's business is dollar-denominated. Thus, in the last two years, although income has risen and business has been good, the translation of foreign currency revenues into inflation-adjusted shekels has produced the opposite picture.

In 1986/7, for example, insurance income in dollars rose from \$2.8m. to \$3m., but since the dollar rose 7 per cent, compared with inflation of 23 per cent in the April 1986-March 1987 period, this gain was more than wiped out.

Furthermore, the company's investment income slumped by over

half in nominal terms. Haron runs Securitas on a very conservative basis, and the company's capital means comprise over three-quarters of its total assets. Most of this money is invested in government bonds, and the poor performance of the dollar-linked bond sector in 1986/87 apparently hurt the company badly.

The upshot of these factors was to reduce total income, in inflation-adjusted terms, from NIS 6m. to NIS 5m. After expenses, the company was left with a pre-tax profit of NIS 3.23m. While this was NIS 100,000 less than the equivalent figure in the previous year, the changes in the tax system came to the rescue by slashing the amount due to the Treasury.

According to Haron, the same picture is emerging in the current year. Business is good, income is rising, but the stable exchange rate, compared with creeping inflation, will again crimp the figures. The investment income is likely to improve, given the strong performance of government bonds in recent months.

The market, whose rise has been fuelled by strong corporate earnings and a bright economic outlook, was boosted by news of a better-than-expected 0.8 per cent rise in July retail sales due to higher car sales.

Wall Street touches 2700

NEW YORK (Reuters). — Wall Street surged towards a record 2700 mark in hectic trading yesterday as investors poured more cash into the five-year-old bull market.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was up nearly 25 points at 2,694 at midday, more than recouping Wednesday's losses, with more than 120 million shares changing hands. (Late prices appear under New York Financial Markets on this page.)

Since it first began its ascent exactly five years ago, the 30-share Dow has risen 244 per cent, gaining about 1,900 points.

Although some analysts said the market may be overbought, traders said they did not believe a correction was near.

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## Goodbye to integration

ALL IS QUIET on the education front these days. Only the most extraordinary event will elicit a strong comment from the education minister, Yitzhak Navon.

Such an event was the disclosure this week that Kahane's racist Kach gang were running a summer camp for out-of-school youngsters in the Jerusalem Forest. Camp training reportedly focused on hatred of Arabs and learning to use firearms against them. Mr. Navon lost no time in urging Israeli society to take forceful action against "these people," Kahane's goons.

The minister had nothing to say, however, about society's — and his own ministry's — obligation to deny the abominable rabbi his following among the country's underprivileged youth, by stepping up rather than undermining integration in the schools.

Shortly before the school year ended, Mr. Navon in fact had occasion firmly to deny strange rumours that he, or at least his ministry, was acting to undo integration. What he did not — indeed could not — deny was that no funds are currently available for pressing on with Israel's still unfinished junior-high school reform, which is the chief instrument of integration. To date, the reform embraces only about one-half of the children to whom it is supposed to apply.

School integration has never been an end in itself. Its purpose has been, and remains, to raise the achievement level of poorer students from underprivileged families without adversely affecting the academic prospects of brighter students from better-off families. By thus speeding up the assimilation of Oriental Jewry into the mainstream of Israeli society, the promise of the "ingathering of the exiles" could truly be made good.

That noble goal has been partly achieved since the launching of the campaign for integration in the early 1960s. Schools in middle-class neighbourhoods are now by and large ethnically mixed. But schools with lower-class and low-achieving student populations are still made up almost exclusively of the children, or grandchildren, of immigrants from Asia and Africa.

These, according to the Hebrew University's Professor Haim Adler, a leading expert on the subject, account for about one-fifth of the school population countrywide.

Ironically, integration has lately become a dirty word. The charge has repeatedly been made that it does not help the under-achievers but only hobbles their betters, and is the enemy of academic excellence. Facts and figures are cited in support of this claim, but little attention is paid to the root cause for the failure of integration to prove itself even where it has been tried: a growing shortage of funds. Integration is an expensive undertaking; yet, having partly been secured, it is now left without a vocal enough constituency that would go after the public money needed to complete the programme.

Many upwardly mobile Sephardi parents who — in no small measure thanks to integration — no longer feel deprived, are anxious to keep their children apart from the underdogs, and are in an unholy alliance with middle-class Ashkenazi parents, many of whom never cared for integration in the first place. The bottom one-fifth, who are most in need of integration, are too inarticulate to lobby effectively for the larger education budgets necessary to get it fully implemented. Especially at a time when the education budget as a whole is the first to come under the Treasury cutters' axe.

Unfortunately, the Ministry of Education seems all too ready to swim with the current instead of going against it.

While the ministry is not actually proposing that integration be dumped, it is doing next to nothing to assure its further progress. The ministry's director-general, Shimon Shoshani, has recently produced a policy paper suggesting that academic selection in schools begin at 12. If that policy is adopted, it will mean goodbye to integration.

Social justice and the Zionist promise apart, the question must be asked whether small and still beleaguered Israel can afford to treat one-fifth of its younger Jewish folk as virtually expendable — while at the same time, and however unintentionally, fostering the feeling among them that the only way they can even retain their present position on the social ladder is by keeping the Arabs down, if not kicking them out.

## An apology of sorts

LAST MARCH Knesset member Shulamit Aloni discharged a volley of abuse at Supreme Court Justice Menachem Elon.

The occasion was Justice Elon's dissent from his colleagues' ruling in the extradition case of William Nakash, brought before the High Court of Justice by a group of petitioners including Ms. Aloni. For having committed that heinous offence, the highly respected authority on Jewish law was dismissed by the greatly respected leader of the Civil Rights Movement as a hack jurist who slavishly follows the dictates of the Orthodox establishment.

Ms. Aloni was advised at the time, in this column, that her own professed commitment to the principles of fairness and equity required that she publicly apologize to Justice Elon for her unseemly outburst from a hospital bed. She would not.

Now, at long last, she has done so. While pointing out that her parliamentary immunity shielded her from the attempt of some religious groups to haul her before the High Court on disciplinary charges, Ms. Aloni did offer an apology of sorts to Justice Elon. It may not have been very graciously worded, but it was an apology nonetheless. It's too bad, however, that it came so late. The great cause of individual freedom which Ms. Aloni so fervently espouses was hardly enhanced by her tardiness.

## LAVI

(Continued from Page One)

Arbeli-Almosino.

The five ministers whose vote on Sunday is harder to predict are Peres, Tzur, Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi, and Ministers-without-Portfolio Yitzhak Peretz and Yigael Hurvitz. (Treasury sources, however, say Hurvitz is voting for abandonment.)

Journalistic speculation has already raised the possibility that Rabin and Nissim might resign if the Lavi project is endorsed.

A senior IAI source yesterday said the company was already in the process of laying off the workers. Some 1,200 have quit since April 1986, he said, including 800 workers who had gone on early pension, others who had held temporary status in the IAI or were working under special contracts. The remaining 250 workers are to be laid off by December. The source confirmed Nissim's

view that the cuts were being made regardless of the Lavi's future.

The works committee was not available for comment yesterday as all IAI workers were off on their summer vacation.

The IAI was also taking other steps to salvage the Lavi. Senior officials, including chairman Mordechai Hod, have been conferring with cabinet ministers in an attempt to win them over.

They have been arguing that a decision to kill the Lavi would end "forever" the production of fighter planes in Israel.

However military sources have been arguing that even if Israel builds the Lavi, it will never embark on a successor. It will be too expensive. Tens of Kfir planes — some produced only last year to justify the Kfir project — have not been used because the Air Force does not have the means to maintain them.

## The Lavi must be halted now

Avi Temkin

HUNDREDS of Israelis will die in the next few years in road accidents. When there is no money to improve the country's highways, accidents are unavoidable. The next several years will also probably see many strikes and crises in the health sector involving the hospital and geriatric services. When there is a chronic lack of funds, crises are unavoidable. Many Israelis are likely to find the tax burden unbearable, and decide that they and their families can fare better abroad. When the budget deficit is high, a large tax burden is inevitable.

These are the facts of life that politicians supporting the Lavi would forget. And these are only some of them. One can add to the list cuts in education, slashes in allowances for children and the elderly, steep increases in interest rates, compulsory government loans, etc. Going over this list, only one question remains: How is it possible for anyone claiming some understanding of public affairs to support the Lavi.

The question these politicians have to answer is a simple one. Where is the money going to come from? The Lavi will create a budgetary gap of some \$150 million a year. Other estimates put that figure at some \$250m., and this bill is one which Uncle Sam is not going to pick up. And when you spend more on the Lavi, you spend less on other items, such as health or education — or you raise taxes.

All these sacrifices could be justified if the Lavi was an item indispensable for the security of Israel. But the IDF including the Air Force, says it is not. The American-made F-16 can do the job. The F-16 is much cheaper than the Lavi, and some \$2 billion could be saved over the next several years by purchasing the American planes, instead of the Lavi. Moreover, the money saved could go towards developing weapons which the army will need.

AGAIN the question is where will the money come from if the Lavi is to fly? There are ministers who would like to avoid the issue — like David Levy or Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino. Let the printing press do the job. Eventually this will mean higher deficits in the balance of payments, devaluation and inflation. And inflation is, in Israeli conditions, the least just of all taxes, eroding the incomes of those who cannot protect themselves against price rises.

There are others who would like to see more taxes. For instance a NIS 350 travel tax, a levy on private cars, a rise in customs or a 10 per cent surtax, imposed for the sake of the Lavi. But that there is a connection between high taxes and low productivity, or between high taxes and emigration from Israel is not understood. After all, ministers do not pay travel taxes nor car levies.

Running away from reality involves in some cases believing in fairy tales — like Israel Aircraft Industries being able to cut costs by \$100 million a year. This is what Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is trying to do. He does not believe his Finance Minister Moshe Nissim or his Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who have told him that such a plan is completely unrealistic. Neither Rabin nor Nissim, who should know what they are talking about, have any confidence in IAI top people. Maybe this is because in the past they tried to mislead decision makers regarding cost figures, and used every opportunity to manipulate the numbers, as recorded in the latest State Comptroller report. But when, like Shamir, you hate to make hard decisions, it is better to disregard the truth, if it does not suit your inclinations.

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TO SHAMIR, Levy and almost all other Likud ministers, the Lavi is a "Likud project." This is the primary justification for their support for it. Scrapping the project would mean admitting the Likud had committed a blunder, one more in the long list of errors committed by that party since it came to office in 1977, including invading Lebanon, the "correct economics" of Yoram Aridor and the economic policies of Yigal Cohen-Orad. Thus, party considerations are put before national interests.

Labour Party ministers are no better. Some of them are apparently blind to the dangers. Or maybe they are thinking about the next election. It is not popular to tell the public that this country is simply not financially capable of producing a plane that can compete with the F-16. Demagoguery is much simpler.

People like to hear from their leaders that the country has developed technological potential. Some Likud MKs and ministers are more than willing to oblige those people, and many Labour Party politicians do not lag behind by much.

Gad Ya'acobi is also trying to dodge the issue. Once he saw himself as a potential finance minister. Judging from his present title, economics and planning minister, it might be expected that he would give his full support to Nissim and to the governor of the Bank of Israel, who are fighting such a hard battle to defend the economy from the consequences of the Lavi.

But Ya'acobi has remained silent in the last weeks. This is somewhat puzzling. Whenever figures show that imports of consumer durables are up by tens of millions of dollars, Ya'acobi is out warning about the pending disaster. But now, when the economy could be losing more than \$2 billion over 10 years, he refrains from publicly stating his position.

His contribution has been to declare that the Treasury is wrong when it says a cabinet decision to go ahead with the Lavi will automatically mean high taxes. There are other alternatives, he said. It is a pity that the minister did not say what these alternatives are. Maybe they are secret. Or maybe they are non-existent. Ya'acobi also said that it had been a mistake to cancel the car levy. Levies, as Ya'acobi knows, are taxes.

The only thing that may force politicians like Ya'acobi or Peres to return to their senses is the kind of American threat issued this week. Sometimes it takes a dose of "big medicine" to make the message clear. It is a pity that our leaders, forced the United States to act, and that they thought for a while that they could fool the Americans.

But the danger is not yet over. Likud ministers could be adamant, and the cabinet could reach a foolish decision. Ariel Sharon does not need very much to start talking about "national pride."

The Lavi must be stopped. This should be done next week. This will no doubt cause hardships, including dismissals in some industries and financial troubles for subcontractors. But if there is an attempt to go on, the cost will be much higher. The amount of money invested in the project will go up and up.

Eventually, maybe after the elections, there will be a decision to call it off. The country's economic hardships will probably reach the point that the cabinet will have to decide to stop evading its responsibilities. Reality has sad ways of imposing itself on day-dreamers.

The writer is an economic reporter for The Jerusalem Post.

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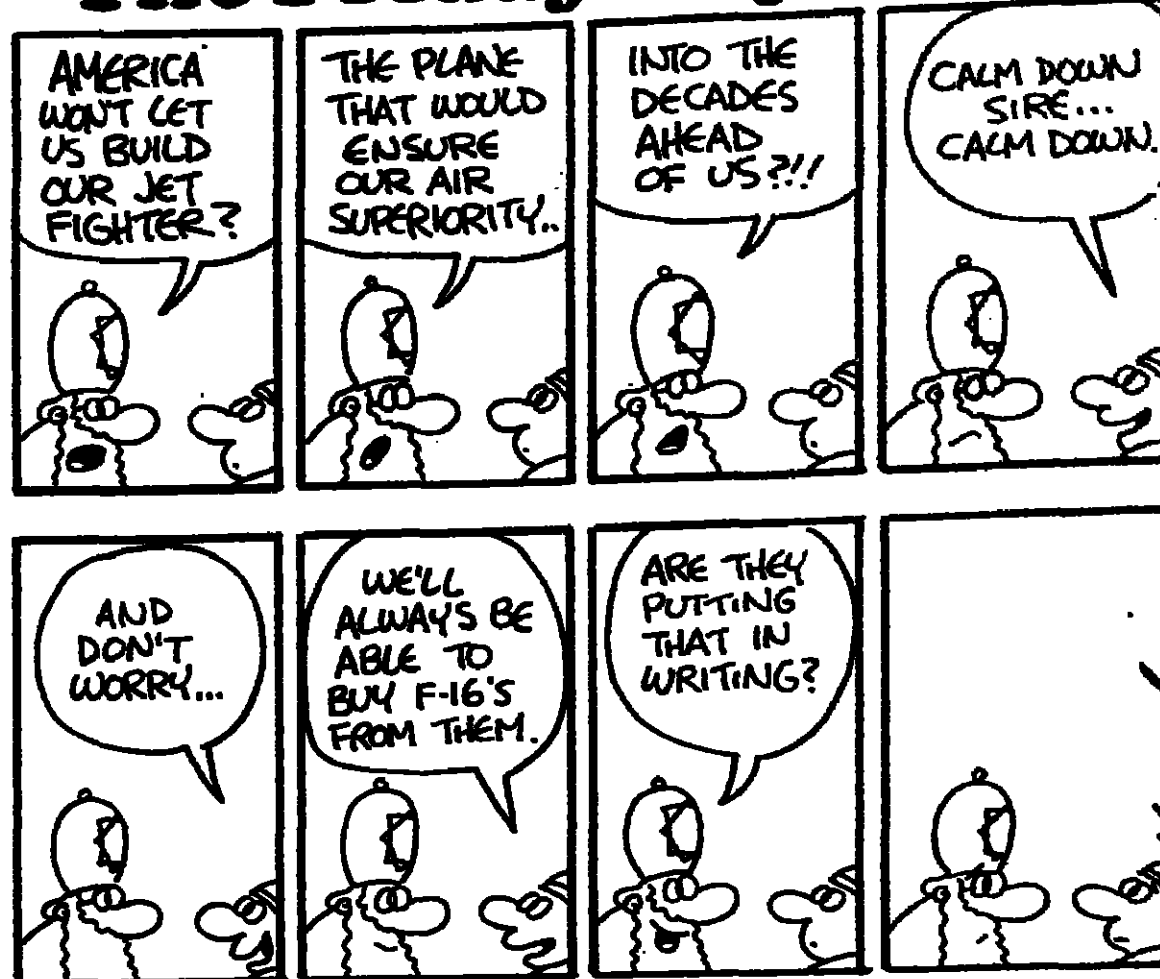
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## The Friday Dry Bones



## READERS' LETTERS

## THE ARABS OF PALESTINE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — David Krivine's article "The uncaptured land" (July 12) in truth, up some well-worn themes, is largely based on Roberta Peters' book *From Time Immemorial*.

Ms. Peters' book was met with derision among specialists. Mr. Krivine has decided to treat as the truth one of Peters' most unbelievable contentions: that the Palestinian Arabs who stayed put during the 1948 fighting were those with the deepest ties to the area, i.e. the only non-migrants, and thus by implication, the only ones entitled to remain. It seems shameful to have to remind him, and more importantly, your readers, of the strategy of the Hagana's Dalet Plan, for "consolidating" conquered areas (by removing their inhabitants), of the use of the Deir Yassin and other massacres to terrorize non-combatant Palestinians into fleeing, and of Ben-Gurion's orders to drive out the inhabitants of Ramle and Lod, among others (as reported by those under him who carried out the command). Surely the targets of these campaigns could not have been chosen for the depths of their roots in the land!

Finally, Krivine's truncated quotation of Peters' truncated quotations of 19th century authors (some of whom also had propagandistic aims) can quickly be answered by a few other random quotations, which of course prove nothing, any more than do his, but which should suggest to your readers how delicate and complex a field history is, and the great care and respect with which it should be reconstituted.

Regarding Tiberias: "It is without question the finest spot in Galilee

and undoubtedly one of the loveliest on earth" (Sodah de Vaulx); Jericho: "Dark-skinned too, the passers-by, whom we encounter in growing numbers..." (Pierre Loti); Gaza: "...The streets are straight and most of the houses...are surrounded by gardens; supplies are plentiful and cheap." (Guide en Orient, 1844); Nazareth: "Along the perpendicular streets of the Arab quarter, seated before little cube-shaped dwellings...craftsmen ply their skills... these women have the lithe grace of Tanagras...Fig, pomegranate and palm trees...peer out over the low garden walls" (Pierre Loti); Jaffa: "The beauty of these gardens is...in the splendour, abundance and perfection of their fruit, of which the oranges take pride of place... Boatmen... out to sea can inhale the fragrance of numberless orange trees... There are flourishing fields of sugar cane where the eye of the traveller finds rest...Water-melons and other sweet fruit are plentiful...Each plantation is watered by one or more wells..." (Guide indicateur de la Terre Sainte, 1876).

DR. ROGER HEACOCK,  
History Department,  
Birzeit University

Birzeit.  
David Krivine comments, I do not think that Dr. Heacock's quotations refute the abundant evidence adduced by Joan (not Roberta) Peters that Palestine was scantily populated in the mid-19th century.

Dr. Heacock attributes to me the implication that only the Arabs who did not flee in 1948 are entitled to remain. I do not believe that, which is one of the reasons why I, like many other Israelis, support the negotiation of a new partition of Palestine.

## LAWS OF KASHRUT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — It is with great interest that I read an article headlined "Entertainment, sabra-style", in the July 4 supplement of the Jerusalem Post. The article began by speaking of the Reform rabbi of Springfield, Illinois, who took the religious observant Reim Duo to dinner and began the meal by ordering a shrimp cocktail. Since I am the only Reform Rabbi in Springfield, Illinois, I found this particularly curious. I have certainly never taken the Reim Duo out to dinner. In fact, to my knowledge, they have never performed in, or been to Springfield, Illinois. Had I taken them out to dinner, I certainly would not have ordered a shrimp cocktail, as I myself am observant of the laws of kashruth.

Perhaps such an event may have taken place in another city, but it certainly did not occur here.

RABBI STEPHEN F. MOCH  
Springfield, Illinois.

## JEWISH BISHOP

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — In her article of July 27, "Russians are coming," Helga Dudman mentions a bishop of Jewish origin who served as head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission to the Holy Land.

The Russian Orthodox Church has never had any bishop of Jewish origin. The man in question, Vasily Levinson (not Levinson), served as a lay secretary of this mission under Bishop Kirill. Levinson was a former Weimar Reform rabbi who converted to Russian Orthodoxy and taught Hebrew in St. Petersburg Ecclesiastical Academy. He died in poverty, completely forgotten.

There was, however, a Christian (not Russian Orthodox) bishop of Jewish origin in Jerusalem, but he was head of the local Anglican church.

MIKHAIL AGURSKY  
Jerusalem.

## PHONING FROM YOUR CAR

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I was at the cinema last week and watched an advertisement before the main feature. It depicted a man driving a car with one hand and speaking on the phone with the other. He then looked at a "sight" outside the car window, both hands off the wheel, and he was distracted instead of concentrating on his driving.

I am dismayed that, in a country where the accident rate is amongst the highest in the world, the authorities are even considering to allow car phones. The law in most countries requires phone calls to be made while the car is stationary, yet the man in the advertisement was driving. Surely, there should be a law covering this situation in Israel.

SIMONE GOLDFARB

Tel Aviv

## TOURIST COMPLAINT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — A relative of mine wrote at my urging to complain of being overcharged by a taxi driver in Jerusalem. If no one complains, I encourage her, it will never get better. More tourists will get ripped off and eventually stop coming.

She got a courteous and prompt reply. Two in fact. One from the Ministry of Tourism which had referred her complaint to the Ministry of Transport and one from the Ministry of Transport which explained that they are powerless unless the complainant is ready to stand up in court and make the accusation in person. Very few tourists will bother to do that, my relative included. It leaves a bad impression, especially as there is no mention in either letter of a reprimand to the driver.

HADASSAH BAT HAIM  
Nahariya.

## OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I would like to spread the message to suffering compulsive overeaters that there is a solution for weight problems: Overeaters Anonymous.

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